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Monday, August 8, 1960
Sravana 17, 1882 (Saka)

LOK SABHA DEBATES

Eleventh Session
(Second Lok Sabha)

LOK SABHA SECRETARIAT

New Delhi

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N.B.—The sign + above a name of a member on Questions, which were orally answered, indicates that the Question was actually asked on the floor of the House by that Member.

GMGIPND—LS II—755 Ai LS—22-8-60—950.

LOK SABHA

Monday, August 8, 1960/Sravana 17, 1882 (Saka)

The Lok Sabha met at Eleven of the Clock.

[SHRI GORAY *in the Chair*]

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

Development of Border Areas

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*200. **Shri Ram Krishan Gupta:**
Shri Nek Ram Negi:
Sardar Iqbal Singh:
Shri Hem Raj:
Shri Bishwanath Roy:
Shri Bhakt Darshan:

Will the Minister of **Home Affairs** be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 2300 on the 19th April, 1960 and state at what stage is the proposal to set up an organisation to co-ordinate development activities in the border districts?

The Minister in the Ministry of Home Affairs (Shri Datar): The co-ordination of development activities in the border districts is now being carried out by Secretary for Kashmir Affairs in the Ministry of Home Affairs.

Shri Ram Krishan Gupta: May I know whether this work is by the central organisation or whether these organisations will be set up regional-wise?

Shri Datar: So far as the various districts are concerned, the administration is directly under the Chief Minister through the Chief Secretary. What we do is this: we have the secretariat here for the purpose of co-ordinating the expenditure and the activities that are to be carried on by the various State Governments.

Shri Ram Krishan Gupta: May I know whether any central assistance will be placed at the disposal of these organisations for the development of border areas?

Shri Datar: Central assistance is given in varying proportions. We have requested the State Governments to place before us long term and short term proposals also. Interim arrangements have already been made for starting the development works and when the schemes come here, they are examined and then a final sanction is given.

Shri Vidya Charan Shukla: May I know if the Road Development Board which has been formed under the chairmanship of the Prime Minister will have any connection with this development authority or whether it will have some co-ordinated relation with this?

Shri Datar: There will be co-ordination everywhere so that there may be no overlapping.

Shri Manaen: Will the hon. Minister tell us the names of the districts which have been brought within the purview of this organisation?

Shri Datar: There are a number of districts. One is the Ladakh district in Jammu and Kashmir. Then there are three districts in Uttar Pradesh: Chamboli is one; Uttar Khasi is another and the third is Pithoragarh. Then there are Spiti and Lahaul in Punjab, and the Chini district in Himachal Pradesh which is directly under us.

Shri Hem Barua: May I know whether the Road Development Board has made any survey of the Himalayan border and fixed any targets and priorities and, if so, what are those targets and priorities? May I also know whether they propose to request the army engineering services for that purpose?

Shri Datar: That work is now going on, especially the survey work, and also the preliminary work in connection with plans and estimates. As soon as they are ready, the work will start.

Shri Tangamani: May I know whether these developmental activities in these border districts will be left in the hands of the Ministry of Community Development and Co-operation?

Shri Datar: I have already pointed out that here we are concerned with the three States and one territory. So far as the States are concerned, they are directly under the charge of the Chief Ministers of the States working through the Chief Secretaries.

Shri C. D. Pande: May I know whether the Government propose to form regional committees for advising the administration, composed of members of legislatures and Members of Parliament?

Shri Datar: That is for the State Governments concerned.

Shri C. D. Pande: Since the Government of India is bearing the whole burden, it has to be seen that the money is well spent and spent usefully.

Shri Datar: The Government are not spending the whole amount under all the heads. Government are spending 100 per cent in certain cases, 75 per cent in certain other cases and on a 50-50 per cent basis in certain other cases. It is a question more or less directly concerning the State Governments and I am confident that the State Governments will see to it that public opinion is consulted whenever it is necessary.

Shri Harish Chandra Mathur: In the matter of development of border areas, the border areas of Rajasthan have not been taken into consideration, and it is where development in particular is necessary. Otherwise, as one might understand the situation, it is all a desert area.

Shri Datar: I may point out that the hilly areas on the border of India require greater attention and therefore they have been taken up first.

Shri Tyagi: Could the hon. Minister kindly give some indication of the type of social activities or developmental activities that are going to be taken up, and see that the work is not limited only to social welfare or cultural activities alone?

Shri Datar: There are a number of activities which are undertaken. For example, there is community development, improvement of communications, small-scale industries, agriculture and veterinary, etc. Here, in this case, what is aimed at, is speedier development because they had not been properly looked after for long.

Polytechnic in Orissa

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*201. { **Shri Chintamoni Panigrahi:** / **Shri Surendranath Dwivedy:**

Will the Minister of **Scientific Research and Cultural Affairs** be pleased to refer to the reply given to Starred Question No. 461 on the 29th February, 1960 and state:

(a) whether the Coordinating Committee of the All India Council for Technical Education has considered the proposal for establishing a polytechnic in Orissa; and

(b) if so, what decisions have been taken in the matter?

The Minister of Scientific Research and Cultural Affairs (Shri Humayun Kabir): (a) and (b). The All India

Council for Technical Education has approved the scheme of establishment of a polytechnic at Kendrapara in the private sector. The Polytechnic is planned for an annual admission of 120 students for Diploma courses in Civil, Mechanical and Electrical Engineering.

11·05 hrs.

[MR. SPEAKER *in the Chair*]

Shri Surendranath Dwivedy: What is the meaning of "private sector" in this context?

Shri Humayun Kabir: There are certain institutions which are established by the Government of India themselves; some by the State Governments by themselves and some by the Central Government and the State Governments together, and in certain other cases, they are established by private agencies which come forward and assist in the establishment of these institutions.

Shri Chintamoni Panigrahi: Why is it that while in all the other States the Government of India have directly sponsored the establishment of polytechnic institutions, in the case of Orissa it was given over to a private body?

Shri Humayun Kabir: We offered a Centrally-sponsored polytechnic to Orissa, but the Orissa Government informed us that they would prefer to establish it with the assistance of an organisation in Kendrapara.

Shri Surendranath Dwivedy: May I know how much grant do the Government of India propose to give to this institution?

Shri Humayun Kabir: Our grants are according to the formula, by which we give 50 per cent.

Shri Supakar: May I know what has been the progress regarding the regional college of technology which is proposed to be established at Rourkela?

Shri Humayun Kabir: It is not a question of a proposal which has been accepted. In the All-India Council we said that we were examining the possibility, in the third Plan, of establishing a regional college in Orissa.

Shri Surendranath Dwivedy: What is the total estimated expenditure and may I know whether this grant would be recurring or non-recurring?

Shri Humayun Kabir: The non-recurring expenditure for the polytechnic itself will be Rs. 14·88 lakhs; for the hostels, the assistance given is in the form of loan which is Rs. 4·43 lakhs. We give 50 per cent of the capital cost, and according to the present formula, we give 50 per cent of the recurring cost for the duration of the second Plan.

Shri K. N. Pandey: May I know whether there is any machinery to see that the persons trained in the polytechnics are absorbed by the States or the Government of India or private agencies, so that they can get employment somewhere?

Shri Humayun Kabir: The problem does not arise because very often they are offered employment almost before they have finished the training.

Shri Chintamoni Panigrahi: May I know who are the private agencies which have come forward to take up this institution?

Shri Humayun Kabir: I am afraid I would have to ask for notice for that.

Import of Oil from U.S.S.R.

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*202. **Shri Ram Krishan Gupta:**
Sardar Iqbal Singh:
Shri P. G. Deb:
Shri Chintamoni Panigrahi:
Shri M. L. Dwivedi:
Shri Rameshwar Tantia:
Shri Vidya Charan Shukla:
Shri Bishwanath Roy:
Shri Harish Chandra Mathur:

Shri Narayanankutty Menon:
Shri Arjun Singh Bhadauria:
Dr. Ram Subhag Singh:
Shrimati Ila Palchoudhuri:
Shri Tangamani:
Dr. K. B. Menon:

Will the Minister of **Steel, Mines and Fuel** be pleased to refer to the reply given to Starred Question No. 1339 on the 7th April, 1960 and state:

(a) whether negotiations with the U.S.S.R. Government for importing crude oil have been concluded; and

(b) if so, the result thereof?

The Minister of Mines and Oil (Shri K. D. Malaviya): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Shri Ram Krishan Gupta: What are the prices quoted by the USSR and to what extent are they cheaper than the prevailing world prices?

Shri K. D. Malaviya: Because crude oil has not been imported from USSR, the question becomes hypothetical.

Shri Chintamoni Panigrahi: After the agreement was signed, the hon. Minister declared that the people of India will be supplied with petroleum products at a very cheap rate. May I know at what rate Government will supply kerosene oil in this country to the people of India?

Shri K. D. Malaviya: We have signed a contract with the USSR Government for importing certain quantities of kerosene and diesel and some other products. As soon as these products arrive here, the Indian Oil Company, which is a registered company under the department of Mines and Oil, but functions independently, will make its own arrangement for distribution of those petroleum products.

Mr. Speaker: His question was, what is the estimated price at which it will be sold here?

Shri K. D. Malaviya: It is not possible for me here to commit to any price, because the Indian Oil Company will have to take so many factors into account and they will fix their own price.

Shri Tangamani: On a previous occasion, we were told that an offer for the supply of crude oil has been received by the Indian Oil Company Limited on behalf of the Government of India. May I know whether that offer has been accepted and also whether the oil refineries in this country in the private sector have refused to refine this crude oil which will be imported from the Soviet Union?

Shri K. D. Malaviya: I would like to make the position clear with regard to the import of crude oil from the USSR. There was an offer made by the Soviet Union to supply crude oil for our refinery purposes. We negotiated the quality, the quantity and the price in case there was the possibility of purchasing some crude oil from the USSR. But subsequently on enquiry, it was found that it was not necessary at this stage to purchase the crude oil from them, because firstly, there was no refinery here to refine the crude oil from the USSR and secondly our installed capacity was enough which could enable us to wait for a few years. Therefore, after considering all the factors, we decided not to purchase any crude oil from the USSR.

श्री म० ला० द्विवेदी : स्थानीय समाचार पत्रों में ये समाचार निकले थे कि रूस से जो तेल आ रहा है, वह उस तेल से सस्ता होगा, जो कि भारत में है । मैं यह जानना चाहता हूं कि क्या इस बात में कोई सचाई है और यदि है, तो यह तेल कितना सस्ता होगा और उसके लिए जानने का क्या तरीका होगा कि वह कितना सस्ता होगा और यह बात कब तक हो जायेगी ।

श्री के० दे० मालवीय : जहां तक क्रूड आयल का सम्बन्ध है, जो दाम सोवियत यूनियन ने हमको दिया था—जिस दाम पर वे सप्लाई करने के लिए राजी हुए थे,

वह दाम कम था । जब हमारी कम्पनियों को, जो कि विलायती रिफ़ाइनरीज को क्रूड आयल दे रही हैं, मालूम हुआ, तो उन्होंने भी दाम कम कर दिये । इस वक्त क्रूड आयल का दाम, जो कि विलायती कम्पनियों ने अपनी रिफ़ाइनरीज को दिया है, कम कर दिया गया है, और काम्पीटीटिव रेट्स हमको हासिल हो गए हैं, इस वजह से कि सोवियत यूनियन से हमको सस्ते दाम पर क्रूड आयल मिल रहा था । जहां तक पेट्रोलियम प्राडक्ट्स का ताल्लुक है, उनमें भी दाम में कमी की गई है और काफ़ी कमी की गई है, लेकिन मैं अभी नहीं बता सकता कि आखिर में कनज्यूमर के लिए क्या दाम होगा ।

श्री म० ला० द्विवेदी : अध्यक्ष महोदय, मैंने जो सवाल पूछा था, उसका उत्तर मुझे नहीं मिला है । मैंने यह पूछा था कि रूस से जो तेल आया हुआ है, वह स्थानीय कम्पनियों के तेल से सस्ता होगा या नहीं ।

श्री के० दे० मालवीय : मैंने कहा है कि होगा । दाम क्या होगा, यह मुझे नहीं मालूम है ।

Shri Vidya Charan Shukla: May I know if the negotiations for importing crude oil from the USSR are still continuing or have they been dropped for the time being?

Shri K. D. Malaviya: They have been dropped for the time being.

Shri T. B. Vittal Rao: May I know if the proposal to increase the capacity of the Burmah-Shell refinery at Bombay has been drawn, because the hon. Minister said that since there is no capacity, we could not import crude oil from the Soviet Union?

Shri K. D. Malaviya: The refineries that are functioning in this country under the private sector are not willing to refine crude oil from the Soviet ...

Some Hon. Members: Why?

Shri K. D. Malaviya: ....because they have got their own sources of supply. They have under the existing agreement made arrangements by which they will make their own supplies.

Shri T. B. Vittal Rao: Can any refinery dictate terms to us and say that they will refuse to refine oil from other countries?

Mr. Speaker: It is a private company. The hon. Minister has clearly stated that the private agencies will supply crude oil by themselves and they are not going to refine this oil from the USSR. So, they have to start a public company or a private company with USSR capital. We are not going to force the Government to accept the suggestion. After all, we can only elicit information. It is quite clear that USSR oil is much cheaper than any other oil and an offer was made to some private companies asking them to refine this crude oil. They refused to do so and the Government seem to be helpless in this matter now. Let us see later on.

Shri K. D. Malaviya: It is a fact that they refuse to refine the crude oil from the Soviet Union.

Mr. Speaker: It is also a fact that it is cheaper.

Shri K. D. Malaviya: But they reduced the price also in competition with them.

Shri Tyagi: Did they reduce it to that extent?

Shri K. D. Malaviya: I am not in a position to disclose this. (*Interruptions*).

Mr. Speaker: What is the secrecy about it? The hon. Member has asked whether it has been reduced sufficiently below that level or equal to the level offered by the USSR. There can be only one answer—yes or no. What is the secrecy about it?

Shri K. D. Malaviya: I will explain. I am not able to disclose it because the offer of reduction in the price of

crude oil which has been made by the western companies is in appearance physically about 27 cents per barrel, which has been already known to the public. But its implication on petroleum products and otherwise is not yet quite clear to us. The whole matter is under examination. Unless we know what the actual reduction in the price of crude oil is, we cannot compare and contrast it with the price offered in a hypothetical way by any other country. (*Interruptions*).

Some Hon. Members *rose*—

Mr. Speaker: I am not going to allow. Next question.

Children's Book Trust

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*203. { **Shri A. M. Tariq:** **Shri D. C. Sharma:**

Will the Minister of **Education** be pleased to refer to the reply given to Starred Question No. 454 on the 29th February, 1960 and state whether the Press has since been installed?

The Minister of Education (Dr. K. L. Shrimali): No, Sir.

Shri A. M. Tariq: May I know how much time it will take to instal this press?

Dr. K. L. Shrimali: There have been some difficulties. The Trust was registered in 1957. In 1957-58 and 1958-59, on account of foreign exchange stringency, the loan could not be released to the Trust. I now understand that the Trust has acquired a press. It has also acquired the land and I have also been told that a good amount of material for the production of suitable text-books have been collected. We have been assured by the Trust that some books will go into production by October next.

Shri A. M. Tariq: I asked whether the press has since been installed and he said, "No, Sir". I would like to know how much time it will take to instal this press. What is the use of collecting material when there is no press?

Dr. K. L. Shrimali: The hon. Member is aware that it is a private registered trust and the Government of India have only given them loan on interest. They have obtained the press; they have also acquired the land. As to how much time it will take for installing the press, I could not exactly say. We have requested the trustees to get this matter expedited as early as possible.

Maharajkumar Vijaya Anand: Is there any understanding between the Children's Book Trust and the National Book Trust to avoid any possible duplication?

Dr. K. L. Shrimali: There is no duplication between the National Book Trust and the Children's Book Trust. The Children's Book Trust will confine itself only to the production of literature for children.

Maharajkumar Vijaya Anand: Will it be in all languages in this country?

Dr. K. L. Shrimali: The National Book Trust produces books in all languages.

Dr. Sushila Nayar: Will the hon. Minister tell us whether the Trust has produced any books in the meantime? What work has it done up till now?

Dr. K. L. Shrimali: They have collected the necessary material and I have been told that by the end of October next they may be able to produce some books.

Shri Thirumala Rao: May I know the amount of money given to this Trust and, if it is a loan, the security offered by this Trust?

Dr. K. L. Shrimali: The amount of loan given to the Trust so far is Rs. 4 lakhs. The loan has been given under certain terms and conditions. I think on another occasion I read out the terms and conditions. If the hon. Member is interested, I will lay on the Table of the House a copy of the terms and conditions of this loan.

Shri Ranga: Is it not a fact that this Trust is an independent body

and it is not the creation of the Government and, therefore, it is not necessary for the Government to go into the details of its administration?

Dr. K. L. Shrimali: Government are not going into the details of its administration. Government have advanced loan to this Trust. Therefore, they are interested in seeing to what extent they are utilising the loan, and how it can be recovered in time.

नई दिल्ली के राष्ट्रीय अभिलेखागार के लिये उपभवन

*२०४. **श्री म० ला० द्विवेदी** : क्या शिक्षा मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) नई दिल्ली स्थित भारत के राष्ट्रीय अभिलेखागार के लिये उपभवन के निर्माण में कितना खर्च होने का अनुमान है ;

(ख) क्या उसके अनुमित व्यय में कोई परिवर्तन किया गया था; और

(ग) यदि हां, तो इसके क्या कारण है ?

शिक्षा मंत्री (डा० का० ला० श्रीमाली) : (क) ४५.८३ लाख रुपये ।

(ख) जब से ऊपर के भाग (क) के उत्तर में बताए गये अनुमित व्यय अनुमोदित हो गये थे तब से कोई परिवर्तन नहीं किया गया ।

(ग) प्रश्न ही नहीं उठता ।

श्री म० ला० द्विवेदी : मैं जानना चाहता हूं कि इस उपभवन को इस समय पर बनाने की कौन सी आवश्यकता प्रतीत हुई है और कौन कौन से ऐसे महत्व के कागजात हैं जो कि अभी बाहर पड़े हुए हैं जिनको कि उसके अन्दर सुरक्षित रखना है ?

डा० का० ला० श्रीमाली : माननीय सदस्य जानते है कि नेशनल आरकाइव्ज में गवर्नमेंट आफ इंडिया के बड़े बहुमूल्य रिकार्ड रखे जाते हैं और यदि वह जायेंगे तो देखेंगे कि अब वह उन रिकार्ड्स से बहुत भर गया है और अब उनके लिए पर्याप्त स्थान नहीं है । इसलिए उसके साथ एक एनैक्सी बनाने की आवश्यकता महसूस हुई है और इसलिए यह तजवीज है । जहां तक रिकार्ड्स का ताल्लुक है, इतिहास की दृष्टि से वह बहुत बहुमूल्य हैं और हर एक राष्ट्र का, हर एक राज्य का यह कर्तव्य है कि वह उनको सुरक्षित रखे ।

श्री म० ला० द्विवेदी : मैं जानना चाहता हूं कि यह उपभवन कब तक बन कर तैयार हो जाएगा ?

डा० का० ला० श्रीमाली : इसकी तो मैं आपको कोई तिथि नहीं बता सकता हूं क्योंकि मामला इस वक्त टाउन प्लानिंग आगनाइजेशन के पास है और वह इसकी जांच कर रहा है कि जो बिल्डिंग बनेगी वह उस जगह के लिए उपयुक्त है या नहीं ।

Oil Refinery in South India

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*205. **Shri Rameshwar Tantia:**
Shri Ram Krishan Gupta:
Shri Pahadia:
Shri N. R. Muniswamy:
Shri Rami Reddy:
Shri A. K. Gopalan:
Shri V. P. Nayar:
Shri Narayanankutty Menon:
Shrimati Mafida Ahmed:
Dr. Ram Subhag Singh:
Shri Subodh Hansda:
Shri R. C. Majhi:
Shri Warior:
Shri Vasudevan Nair:

Will the Minister of **Steel, Mines and Fuel** be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a new public sector oil refinery is proposed to be set up somewhere in South India to avail of the Russian offer of crude oil supplies;

(b) the decision taken with regard to the exact location of the refinery;

(c) whether it is also a fact that Russia will supply this crude oil at rates cheaper than the prevailing world prices; and

(d) if so, the effect thereof on the home-market prices?

The Minister of Mines and Oil (Shri K. D. Malaviya): (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (d). Do not arise.

श्री रामेश्वर टांटिया : अभी एक प्रश्न के उत्तर में माननीय मंत्री जी ने बताया था कि यद्यपि हमें रशियन तेल सस्ता मिल रहा था परन्तु प्राइवेट सेक्टर में बैठी हुई रिफ़ाइनरीज़ ने रूसी तेल को साफ करने से इन्कार किया है । ऐसी हालत में मैं जानना चाहता हूं कि जो पब्लिक सैक्टर में दो रिफ़ाइनरीज़ असम और बरौनी में बैठ रही हैं वे रिफ़ाइनरीज़ रशियन तेल को साफ कर सकेंगी अगर वह सस्ता मिलेगा या वह भी जिस मुल्क से कोलेबोरेशन में वे बैठ रही हैं उन्हीं द्वारा साफ किया जाएगा ?

श्री के० दे० मालवीय : जो पब्लिक सैक्टर की दो रिफ़ाइनरीज़ बरौनी और गोहाटी में लग रही हैं वे हमारे ही तेल को शोधित करेंगी जो असम में उत्पन्न हो रहा है । उन दोनों रिफाइनरीज़ में अभी तक जैसा मालूम होता है बाहर का कोई कोई तेल भी शोधित नहीं होगा । लेकिन अगर कोई नई रिफाइनरी लगेगी देश के किसी और कोने में तो वहां बाहर से, सोवियत संघ से या जहां से भी सस्ता तेल हमें मिलेगा उसे लाकर शोधित करने से गवर्नमेंट को कोई नहीं रोकता ।

Shri Damani: May I know whether Government have received any application from the private sector for setting up an oil refinery in any part of the country? If so, may we know the details and action taken on it?

Shri K. D. Malaviya: Yes, Sir. Certain proposals have been received by the Government from the private sector to install refineries in various parts of the country. Those proposals are under examination of Government.

Shri Damani: May I know in which part of the country they want to set up the oil refineries?

Shri K. D. Malaviya: Generally, no site is located in these offers. That is for the Government to decide as to where a refinery will be administratively feasible. But, for the present, Government are not thinking of locating any refinery over and above those already indicated in the programme of Second and Third Five Year Plans.

Shri Hem Barua: May I know whether it is a fact that in view of the information going round the country that Soviet crude oil is offered at cheaper rates there has been a rate war and Burmah-Shell has proposed to reduce the price of crude oil by 7 per cent whereas Stanvac and Caltex have followed suit? If so, is it a fact that the reduction in the price of crude oil by Burmah-Shell is going to be reflected in the price structure of the country?

Shri K. D. Malaviya: Firstly, immediately after the declaration of reduction of price by Burmah-Shell, Stanvac followed suit and they also declared an equal amount of reduction in the price of crude. Recently, perhaps day before yesterday, we heard from Caltex also of a similar reduction in the price of crude oil, So, all the western oil companies have declared an equal amount of reduction in the price of crude oil.

As to how it is going to be reflected in the ultimate petroleum product prices, it is not quite clear. It is not quite clear to the Government how the reduced prices are going to affect the overall reduction either in the foreign exchange implication or in the ultimate price of the petroleum products.

Shri Amjad Ali: On a point of order. How could this question arise when the original question refers to oil refineries in South India?

Mr. Speaker: What is the point of order?

Shri Amjad Ali: This question relates to the establishment of an oil refinery in South India. How could any hon. Member raise the question of price on this question and how could the hon. Minister reply to it? How is it relevant?

Mr. Speaker: Anyhow, it has gone into the records. Also, I do not find it to be so irrelevant. This will be a supplementary to the other question to which I did not allow further supplementaries. Since hon. Members were really anxious to know the position I gave some latitude. Now an hon. Member from Assam wants to contradict another.

Shri Hem Barua: May I submit that this is not a matter of favour? This is a matter of right, and this right is conferred on me by part (c) of the question, which reads:

> "whether it is also a fact that Russia will supply this crude oil at rates cheaper than the prevailing world prices;"

Shri Indrajit Gupta: The hon. Minister has just now stated that the three oil companies now operating in India have agreed to a similar reduction in their crude oil prices. It is reported in the press that this reduction is to the extent of 7½ per cent on their previous price. May I know whether the Government of India have suggested any percentage of reduction to these companies and, if so, what is its relation to the 7½ per cent reduction which they have already made.

Shri K. D. Malaviya: The reduction may be much more than 7½ per cent. It may perhaps amount to 11 per cent. I quoted the figure of 27 cents per barrel, which comes to more than 11 per cent or about 12 per cent. We never asked for any particular reduction. And the situation that was to be faced by the western oil companies was that the Soviet Union offered a reduction in the price of crude oil. They did not know what the actual reduction was. It was not for the Government to indicate the quantum of reduction. But, perhaps, as they are themselves good mathematicians and economists they offered a reduction which is what I have just indicated.

Shri Tangamani: May I know whether there is any special reason why this oil refinery which was first proposed to be established in the South in the Public sector has been given up? Is it because they want to extend the existing oil refineries or for any other reason?

Shri K. D. Malaviya: No, Sir. We have already enough installed capacity. So far as the present rate of consumption of petroleum products is concerned, we have not much money to invest on extra projects. So, for the time being the question of having a new refinery in the South has been postponed.

Shri S. R. Arumugham: May I know whether the Government of Madras has invited foreign collaboration through the Government of India to set up an oil refinery in Madras State in view of the possibility of drilling oil in the Cauvery Basin? If so, at what stage does it stand at present?

Shri K. D. Malaviya: The prospecting in the Cauvery Basin is about to commence. A lot of time is likely to be taken before any possibility of oil would be indicated there. Therefore this question of having a refinery cannot be linked up with the discovery of oil in the Cauvery Basin. But separately from the Cauvery Basin oil discovery the Government of Madras are keen on having a refinery there.

Shri Damani: What will be the saving in foreign exchange due to the acceptance of reduction in prices by the Western companies?

Shri K. D. Malaviya: All these questions are under examination.

Shri T. B. Vittal Rao: The hon. Minister has just now stated that

there is no proposal to have more refineries than the two which we are going to have.

Shri K. D. Malaviya: At present.

Shri T. B. Vittal Rao: In that case at which refinery will the crude oil that they are going to get from the Cambay region be refined?

Shri K. D. Malaviya: As soon as the quality and the quantity of Cambay and Ankleshwar are established and the possibility of blending the two is confirmed we shall start planning for a refinery. As I said in my last statement during the last session, by the end of this year we propose to start planning for a medium-sized refinery somewhere there. That time has not yet come.

Shri Ansar Harvani: The hon. Minister has pointed out that he has received offers from certain private companies to establish oil refineries in this country. In view of the fact that the private companies have sabotaged the move to refine crude oil from the Soviet Union, is there any proposal not to permit any private company to establish a refinery here?

Shri K. D. Malaviya: So far as our policy is concerned, oil is completely in the public sector. The proposals which come from the private sector have got to be considered in this background. They also know that they have to accommodate the policy of the Government of India. Therefore it is for them and for us to consider as to how to bring them into the pattern of our policy.

श्री विभूति मिश्र : अभी मंत्री जी ने बतलाया कि रूस का जो क्रूड आयल है वह सस्ता पड़ता है । तो मंत्री जी इसको साफ बतलायें कि रूस का क्रूड आयल किस हिसाब से मिलेगा और दूसरे देशों का क्रूड आयल किस हिसाब से मिलेगा ।

श्री के० दे० मालवीय : मैंने अभी कहा कि उन्होंने करीब करीब ११ या १२ परसेन्ट दाम कम कर दिया है । उसी हिसाब से क्रूड आयल का दाम भी कम हो गया है ।

श्री विभूति मिश्र : मैं जानना चाहता हूं कि एक गैलन क्रूड आयल रूस का कितने में मिलेगा और दूसरे देशों का कितने में मिलेगा ।

श्री के० दे० मालवीय : मेरे पास इस वक्त फिगर्स नहीं हैं । गालिबन अब उनके क्रूड आयल का दाम ६१ या ६२ रु० प्रति टन रखा गया है जब कि पहले ६६ या ६७ रु० प्रति टन था ।

Shri Achar: What were the reasons and circumstances that made the Government think of having a refinery in the South and what are the changed circumstances that have prevailed upon the Government in deciding not to have it there?

Shri K. D. Malavia: There was never any decision by the Government of India to have a refinery in the South. When they did not think of having a refinery in the South they had this situation before them that the installed capacity was enough for the time being, that is, for three or four years to come. But the question of having a refinery on the western coast to refine our own oil is still open for us to consider and we shall consider it. But the time has not yet come for us to take a decision.

Shri Rameshwar Tantia: May I know whether it is a fact that the Russians were prepared to accept payment in rupees?

Shri K. D. Malavia: Yes, Sir.

Production in Ordnance Factories

*206. **Shri S. M. Banerjee:** Will the Minister of **Defence** be pleased to state:

(a) whether production in Ordnance Factories had increased in 1959-60;

(b) if so, to what extent;

(c) how this compares with the figures of 1958; and

(d) further steps taken to increase production?

The Deputy Minister of Defence (Shri Raghuramaiah): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). Final accurate figures of value of work done during 1959-60 are not yet available, but it is expected that the figure will be about Rs. 26 crores. This is a significant increase over the 1958|59 figure which is Rs. 19.57 crores.

(b) The situation is constantly under review by Government and such steps as are necessary and possible to increase production are taken.

Shri S. M. Banerjee: I want to know whether only Ordnance factories are used for production purposes or whether there is a proposal to use the Army workshops and technical development establishments also for stepping up production.

The Minister of Defence (Shri Krishna Menon): Defence production is undertaken in ordnance factories, in private factories and wherever there are facilities and requirements of production.

Shri S. M. Banerjee: My point is that the Army Base Workshops were primarily used for maintenance and repair works. I want to know whether these Army Base Workshops will also be used for production purposes like the ordnance factories.

Shri Krishna Menon: I am not prepared to accept this fine distinction between maintenance and production.

Shri Muhammed Elias: How many Shaktiman trucks have been produced during this period in the Jubbulpore factory?

Shri Raghuramaiah: The hon. Member may table another question. We shall then give the figures.

Shri Aurobindo Ghosal: May I know if any costing of the commodities that are produced in the ordnance factories has been done and, if so, whether the cost of production is more or less in comparison to the cost of production in private factories?

Shri Krishna Menon: We have no figures for comparison with private factories in their method of costing. But I think it is useful for the House to know that these figures are on the basis of lower cost of production as compared to the previous years. Therefore the real quantum of production is higher than that of last year.

Shri M. R. Krishna: May I know whether this increase in production is in civilian goods produced in the ordnance factories or whether it is also in military goods? May I also know the targets fixed for both of these?

Shri Krishna Menon: The increase in strict defence production for the last year is about 40 per cent. The increase in strict defence production of the current year as compared to 1956-57 is over 110 per cent. Then there is some misunderstanding about this question of civilian production. Most of these so-called items of civilian production are items like cartridges which can only be produced in ordnance factories or items which are equally necessary for defence and civilian purposes.

Shri Ranga: In view of the fact that in many cases the cost of production happens to be higher than the usual prices charged in the bazaar for corresponding articles and the Public Accounts Committee on several occasions suggested to Government that they might consider the advisability of examining this matter and of also having cost accounting, have Government tried to give any consideration to these?

Shri Krishna Menon: I am sorry I cannot accept the premise. The facts are exactly otherwise. We do not want to say anything here which

might discourage private production. Secondly, there are cost accounting methods. An officer of the Auditor-General sits in all these places and the accounts are very strictly checked.

Shri Ranga: Are we to understand that Government are not prepared to examine the various steps by which they can possibly bring down the cost of production which is already found to be much higher than what its experienced in the bazaar?

Shri Krishna Menon: I cannot accept the assertion about the higher prices. Examination of casts is continually taking place. I said in answer to the supplementary a few minutes ago that the cost of production today is lower than what it was two or three years ago and the figure therefore represents higher production in terms of goods.

Shri Ranga: Will Government be good enough to examine this matter?

Shri Krishna Menon: They are continually under examination on every project.

Mr. Speaker: The hon. Minister has said that the cost of production today is much lower than the cost of production in the previous year. He wants to know its comparison with the cost of production of similar articles in the private sector.

Shri Krishna Menon: As for similar articles, I am not aware, for the bulk of articles produced in the ordnance factories are not produced by anybody else. If, however, notice of a question is put down we are prepared to give the prices. We can only go, so far as private production is concerned, by what it will cost us if we have supplies from them.

Shri Ranga: Therefore it is a monopoly.

Shri S. M. Banerjee: May I know whether there is any proposal to set up new plants in certain ordnance factories, that is, steel or boot plant? Boot plant there is, but what other plants are to be set up?

Shri Krishna Menon: The plants in the ordnance factories are being constantly augmented or modified to suit the increasing requirements. The requirements for equipment for defence increase each day specially in view of the present circumstances. Therefore these plants are under continual review.

Shrimati Sucheta Kripalani: What are the civilian items that are produced in the ordnance factories?

Shri Krishna Menon: The bulk of them are cartridges, ammunition, film projectors etc.—I am talking of the bulk.

Shrimati Sucheta Kripalani: I want to know the civilian items.

Shri Krishna Menon: Cartridges are 'civilian' production.

Shrimati Sucheta Kripalani: I will be more specific. May I know whether in these ordnance factories even toilet goods are produced, in some of them?

Shri Krishna Menon: Well, it will be a good thing if they did, because they could be easily converted in wartime for other purposes. But unfortunately we do not have the facilities.

Dr. Melkote: The production in the previous years was much below the expected normal. Is it a fact that in spite of the increase of 40 per cent it is still below the expected normal?

Shri Krishna Menon: No, the targets have been well reached. I said that this year's production as compared with 1956-57 would be well over 100 per cent. For obvious reasons one cannot give the breakdown figures, because it would give an idea as to the quantum produced. But over the last twelve months' period, that is from the end of the previous financial period to that of the present one, as compared to the previous period the increase may be about 40 per cent.

Shri Yadav Narayan Jadhav: Inspite of the fact that there is increased production, is it a fact that there is much more idle capacity in these factories?

Shri Krishna Menon: There is very little idle capacity in the sense of unused capacity, but there is immense potential for increase in capacities.

Shri B. C. Kamble: What are the main items on which more emphasis is laid with regard to increase of production in the ordnance factories?

Shri Krishna Menon: This forty per cent I referred to is in relation to defence production.

Dr. Sushila Nayar: In the Defence Pavilion of the Agricultural Fair miscroscopes were exhibited as being produced by the Defence organisation. May I know why this scientific apparatus has not been placed in the market, and not even the particulars of these things that are being produced are available?

Shri Krishna Menon: The hon. Member is misinformed. Large numbers of our institutions use these microscopes made in our ordnance factories.

Shri Damani: May I know whether Government is thinking of, or will consider, the production of plant and machinery for industries which are being imported just now?

Shri Krishna Menon: That is also being done within the limits of our capacity.

Shri Damani: May I kow whether the Defence Ministry has consulted the Ministry of Commerce and Industry in this connection?

Shri Krishna Menon: Government, as I said the other day, functions as one. We are in constant consultation with them.

मनीपुर-बर्मा सीमा पर तस्कर-व्यापार

*२०७. श्री नवल प्रभाकर :
श्री कोडियान :

क्या वित्त मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या यह सच है कि मनीपुर-बर्मा सीमा पर तस्कर व्यापार होता है ;

(ख) इस सम्बन्ध में पिछले साल कितने व्यक्ति गिरफ्तार किये गये और कितने व्यक्तियों को सजा दी गई ; और

(ग) उनसे कितने मूल्य का माल बरामद किया गया ?

वित्त उपमंत्री (श्री ब० रा० भगत) : (क) जी हां, मनीपुर-बर्मा सीमा पर चोरी-छिपे माल लाने या ले जाने के कुछ मामलों का पता सरकार को लगा है ।

(ख) १९५९ में पांच व्यक्ति गिरफ्तार किये गये थे । उनके खिलाफ मुकदमे दायर कर दिये गये थे जो अभी चल रहे हैं ।

(ग) उनके पास से जो माल बरामद हुआ है उसकी कीमत सिर्फ १,१७,६०० रुपये है ।

Some Hon. Members: In English.

Mr. Speaker: Hon. Members have not been able to follow the answer in Hindi. The hon. Minister may read the answer in English also. Progressively hon. Members must be able to follow Hindi, though they may not be able to speak.

Shri B. R. Bhagat: (a) Yes, Sir, a few instances of smuggling on Manipur-Burma border have come to the notice of the Government.

(b) During the year 1959, five persons were arrested. They have been prosecuted in a court of law and the cases are still in progress.

(c) The value of the goods seized from them was Rs. 1,17,600 only.

श्री नवल प्रभाकर : क्या मैं जान सकता हूं कि कौन कौन सी चीजों का तस्कर व्यापार होता है ?

श्री ब० रा० भगत : आम तौर से जो लग्जरी गुडस कहे जाते हैं उनका तस्कर व्यापार होता है, खास कर फाउंटेन पेन, रेजर ब्लेडस और मोटर के पार्टस इत्यादि चीजें चोरी छिपे लायी जाती हैं । एक दो मामलों में सोना भी बरामद हुआ है ।

श्री नवल प्रभाकर : सोना कितने का बरामद हुआ है ?

श्री ब० रा० भगत : सन १९५९ में सोना लाने के तीन केसेज पकड़े गये, और जो सोना बरामद हुआ उसकी कीमत १,१९,९०४ रुपये और ३४ नए पैसे थी । सन १९६० में चोरी छुपे सोना लाने के दो केसेज पकड़े गये और जो सोना बरामद हुआ उसकी कीमत १६,५९६ रुपये थी ।

श्री नवल प्रभाकर : इसको रोकने के लिये क्या किया गया है ?

श्री ब० रा० भगत : इसको रोकने की कोशिश की जा रही है और जो कदम उठाये गये हैं उनका असर भी हो रहा है । हमारा लैंड कस्टम्स बार्डर है । उसके बाद पांच प्रिवेंटिव चेक पोस्ट हैं इस सीमा पर । और हम पूरी कोशिश कर रहे हैं कि ये जो चोरी छिपे चीज लाई जाती हैं इनका लाना रुक सके ।

श्री प्रकाश वीर शास्त्री : क्या मैं जान सकता हूं कि सीमा पर होने वाले इस तस्कर व्यापार में कुछ पुलिस अधिकारी भी सम्मिलित पाए गए हैं ?

श्री ब० रा० भगत : एक आध केस में पाए गए हैं और उनके खिलाफ कार्रवाई हुई है ।

Shri Raghunath Singh: May I know whether these smugglers who were arrested are Indians or foreigners?

Shri A. P. Jain: They have no nationality!

Shri B. R. Bhagat: So far, those whom we have arrested are Indians. They are mainly the carriers, poor people who employ themselves as such. But the actual agents are different persons. They may be on the other side of the border as well as on this side. But we are trying to track them and prosecute them.

Shri B. K. Gaikwad: Whatever goods are smuggled, are they smuggled from India or are they smuggled from Burma into India?

Shri B. R. Bhagat: In all these cases these are cases of inward smuggling, that is they are smuggled from Burma over the border to India.

Shri Amjad Ali: Are we to understand that opium, from either side, was never smuggled?

Shri B. R. Bhagat: We have no case of opium on this side, because all these goods relate to other articles, not opium.

Shri M. C. Jain: May I know whether the Government could spot the real smugglers?

Shri B. R. Bhagat: We track down every culprit. In some cases we catch them, in other cases we do not. When we take them to court, for want of evidence or other things, they may be let out. But we try to catch everybody involved.

Rules regarding Study Leave

*209. **Shrimati Renu Chakravarity:**
Shri Inder J. Malhotra:
Shri Ram Garib:

Will the Minister of **Finance** be pleased to refer to the reply given to Starred Question No. 47 on the 10th February, 1960 and state:

(a) whether liberalising of "rules relating to study leave and special

leave for study so that ability and training is allowed to find its own proper level without hindrance" has been finalised;

(b) if not, at what stage it is; and

(c) whether delays in forwarding applications for jobs through departmental heads have been stream-lined?

The Deputy Minister of Finance (Shrimati Tarkeshwari Sinha): (a) and (b). The study leave terms and special leave terms are quite liberal. They do not, therefore, call for further liberalisation.

(c) Clear instructions for the guidance of administrative authorities were issued in May 1960, copy of which is placed on the Table of the Sabha. [*See* Appendix I, annexure No. 53].

Shrimati Renu Chakravartty: In the statement which has been given to us it is stated that the applications may be held back if public interests demand it. Yet nowhere is the term 'public interest' actually defined. May I know exactly what are the rules governing this particular definition?

Shrimati Tarkeshwari Sinha: We have left it to the discretion of the Government to see whether the officer is required for holding that job in the public interest.

Shrimati Renu Chakravartty: Even in the case of temporary posts, although it is stated that generally they should be forwarded, even there this general clause will be guiding, whether the officer should forward the application or not, that is public interest. Does Government contemplate making that definition a little more specific?

Shrimati Tarkeshwari Sinha: There has been no reason for making this more specific as it does not involve any constitutional right, and therefore, we have left it to the discretion of Government. But time and again the Home Ministry has been issuing circulars and office memoranda to see that so far as temporary persons are concerned the maximum facilities should be given to them and the points of view of both the Government and the employee should be considered.

Shri Hem Barua: In view of the fact that discretion is left to Government, which means the discretion is left to the administrative officer at the top, and often the applications are not forwarded may I know why Government does not consider it proper to liberalise the rules, in spite of Dr. Joseph's tragedy?

The Minister of Finance (Shri Morarji Desai): May I say that "public interest" only means that when the Government officer concerned is required for performing some duty here and nobody else can do it immediately he has to be retained? And certainly it is not the contention of the hon. Member that he can be allowed to go. That is the only case. In the case of Dr. Jospeh, he was given study leave, and it was extended for two years. There was no question of not giving it.

Shri Hem Barua: That intention of the Government was not reflected in referring to forwarding Dr. Joseph's application for bettering his prospects.

Shri Morarji Desai: That is quite a different proposition altogether.

Shri Vajpayee: May I know if the attention of the hon. Minister has been drawn to the fact that notwithstanding these instructions, departmental heads are refusing to forward the applications of their subordinates?

Shri Morarji Desai: That is a matter of opinion.

Drilling for Oil in Gujerat

\+

*210. { **Shri Raghunath Singh:** / **Shri P. K. Deo:**

Will the Minister of **Steel, Mines and Fuel** be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of Gujerat have been asked by the Oil

and Natural Gas Commission to postpone the plan of the new capital of Gujerat in view of the possibility of occurrence of large deposit of oil in that area;

(b) whether steps are being taken to drill in this area; and

(c) if so, the progress made so far in drilling and the result achieved?

The Minister of Mines and Oil (Shri K. D. Malaviya): (a) the possibility of the existence of oil in the area of the proposed site for the new capital of Gujerat has been brought to the notice of the State authorities.

(b) Geophysical survey at the site has been completed and the question of test drilling is under consideration.

(c) Does not arise.

Shri Raghunath Singh: May I know whether drilling was carried out in this area and oil was found?

Shri K. D. Malaviya: No, Sir. Let me make the position clear. This area was selected for the new capital of Gujerat State, and as the entire region has the possibility of finding oil, this question was referred to us for our final opinion. Rapidly we carried out surveys which gave us a positive indication of the possibilities of finding oil if and when we made some efforts. So, certain preliminary investigations have been completed, and we advised the Gujerat Government to change their site for the capital, because if we resort to drilling, there may be a possibility of finding oil there. A major part of that region has structures where oil could be available, and that is the advice we have finally given them. We have already placed order for one drill especially reserved for this area, and we hope to start drilling there next winter.

Shri Vidya Charan Shukla: What is the latest assessment of oil potential in the Cambay and Ankleshwar area?

Shri K. D. Malaviya: This supplementary, I presume, has no reference to the Gujerat Capital and possibility of finding oil there.

Shrimati Renuka Ray: Have the Gujerat Government agreed to change the site, and have they chosen a new site for their capital?

Shri K. D. Malaviya: I do not know anything about the position of the Gujerat Capital in this connection. We have given our advice that they might consider changing the site.

Shrimati Renuka Ray: Have they given any indication as to where they would go?

Shri K. D. Malaviya: I have not received any communication from the Gujerat Government.

Shri Yadav Narayan Jadhav: May I know whether this oil belt extends up to Baroda?

Shri K. D. Malaviya: I do not know anything about it.

Shri Vidya Charan Shukla: He said my question had no relation.

The area about which he answered the previous question lies in the same area. May we know the latest position of oil assessment there?

Shri K. D. Malaviya: The question put to me was:

> "whether the Government of Gujerat have been asked by the Oil and Natural Gas Commission to ponstpone the plan of the new Capital of Gujerat. . ."

Obviously, I presume, it has no relation to the quantitative assessment of oil found in Cambay and Ankleshwar. The new capital, is, I suppose, more than 20 miles away from Cambay.

Mr. Speaker: Part (b) of the question is:

> " whether steps are being taken to drill in this area".

It relates not merely to the capital. Unless the people know the belt, there is no purpose in removing the capital. If there is no possibility of getting even a drop of oil from the site where

the capital is now proposed to be located, why should it be removed? Therefore, the hon. Minister must have information as to how far the belt extends and the quantity.

Shri K. D. Malaviya: So far as the extension of the belt is concerned, it is not at all relevant to the possibility of finding oil in the site where the Gujarat capital is going to be built.

Mr. Speaker: Then, how is the hon. Minister concerned with the capital of Gujarat?

Shri K. D. Malaviya: There are three stages for the exploration of oil. The first two stages go to indicate greater chances of finding oil. These two stages of exploration have been completed. They have nothing to do with drilling. Drilling comes as the final stage of exploration for oil. Only when we are confirmed in the first stages, do we resort to the very costly method of drilling. That is what we are now going to do next winter. Even then it is quite possible we may not find a drop, but the technological advice is that such areas where such preliminary tests have been completed should never be given up, and drilling should be resorted to. That is what we are going to do.

Mr. Speaker: What is the answer to part (c) of the question?

Shri K. D. Malaviya: I have said that next winter we are going to start drilling. We have no drill for that area now. We are going to negotiate for the purchase. We hope to get it by November, and within a couple of months from then we shall find out whether there is any oil or not.

Retention Price of Steel

*211. **Shri Supakar:** Will the Minister of **Steel, Mines and Fuel** be pleased to state:

(a) whether there has been any change in the retention price of steel in the private and the public sectors since the production of steel in public sector; and

(b) the retail price of steel today as compared to that in July, 1959?

The Minister of Steel, Mines and Fuel (Sardar Swaran Singh): (a) There has been only one revision in the retention price of steel since the steel plants in the Public Sector have started production. There is no difference between the retention prices of steel payable to producers in public and private sectors.

(b) There has been no revision in the selling price since July, 1959.

Shri Supakar: The production from the public sector projects, especially Rourkela, has been much lower than the expected quantity. Is that one of the important reasons why the retail prices of steel and pig iron are not coming down in spite of larger production?

Sardar Swaran Singh: I do not know how the hon. Member is connecting the two. The last increase in the retention price of steel took place in December, 1959, and that was an increase of Rs. 5 per ton. That increase had to be given on account of the recommendation of the Tariff Commission of what is known as the "escalation" clause, i.e., if the prices of such and such raw material or labour charges increase, then the retention price will be changed to such and such an extent. That had nothing to do with the cost of the Rourkela Bhilai or Durgapur projects. Actually, we have given an undertaking that the public sector steel plants will continue to get the same retention price as is payable to the private sector steel plants. It is really the costing on the private sector steel plants that is the basis for the fixation of the retention price. So, the manner in which the hon. Member is trying to connect the two is not at all called for.

Shri C. D. Pande: I believe the retention price is based on the equalisation fund and because the import of steel is getting lesser and lesser, there should be possibility of reducing the retention price.

Sardar Swaran Singh: The retention price is not really based upon the import price. The retention price is paid out of the equalisation fund to the various producers and it is related to the cost of production *plus* a certain element by way of making funds available for expansion purposes. Therefore, the quantity of import has got no impact at all upon the retention price.

Shri Damani: May I know whether it is a fact that some companies in the private sector have approached Government for a revision of the retention price, and if so, the date of their application and the action taken by Government thereon?

Sardar Swaran Singh: It is a fact that the private sector has come up for a revision of the retention price. I would require separate notice to give the exact date of that application. The matter is under examination.

Shrimati Renu Chakravartty: In view of the fact that the retention price of steel is directly connected with the cost of production, and also of the fact that the public sector steel plants have now gone into production, may I know whether there is any attempt to have the whole matter reviewed by the Tariff Commission?

Sardar Swaran Singh: I have already indicated that in 1955 we had entered into an agreement with the two private sector plants which had undertaken expansion that the common retention prices will operate for seven years. That period comes to an end in 1962. So, as things stand at present, we have intention to stick to that unless anything very disturbing happens.

Shrimati Renu Chakravartty: Do Government now propose to have the matter examined again, in view of the fact that the private sector wants an increase in the retention price?

Sardar Swaran Singh: The mere fact that the private sector wants an increase or makes out a case for increase is not sufficient ground for re-examination, but the matter, as I have already indicated, is under examination.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

Refinery at Noonmati (Gauhati)

***208. Shri D. C. Sharma:** Will the Minister of **Steel, Mines and Fuel** be pleased to refer to the reply given to Starred Question No. 175 on the 16th February, 1960 and state the further progress made in the setting up of a refinery at Noonmati (Gauhati)?

The Minister of Mines and Oil (Shri K. D. Malaviya): A statement is laid on the Table of the House. [*See* Appendix I, annexure No. 54].

Hindu Religious Endowments Commission

***212. Shri Aurobindo Ghosal:**
Shri Chintamoni Panigrahi:
Shri Ram Krishan Gupta:
Shri Rameshwar Tantia:
Sardar Iqbal Singh:
Shri Bhakt Darshan:
Shri Bibhuti Mishra:
Shri Kalika Singh:
Shri Agadi:
Shri Sugandhi:

Will the Minister of **Law** be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Hindu Religious Endowments Commission have submitted their report; and

(b) if not, when it is likely to be submitted?

The Deputy Minister of Law (Shri R. M. Hajarnavis): (a) No.

(b) The Chairman of the Commission has informed the Government that the Commission expect to submit their report sometime early next year.

Holiday Homes for Defence Workers

*213. **Shri Keshava:** Will the Minister of **Defence** be pleased to state:

(a) whether any scheme of holiday homes in hill stations for defence workers and Jawans has been formulated; and

(b) if not, the reasons therefor?

The Minister of Defence (Shri Krishna Menon): (a) No, Sir.

(b) The matter is still under consideration especially having regard to present conditions.

Indian Expedition to Mount Everest

*214. **Shri S. A. Mehdi:**
Shri Nardeo Snatak:
Shri D. C. Sharma:
Shri Assar:
Shri Supakar:
Shri Raghunath Singh:
Shri Bhakt Darshan:
Shrimati Mafida Ahmed:
Shri C. K. Bhattacharya:
Dr. Ram Subhag Singh:
Shrimati Minimata:

Will the Minister of **Scientific Research and Cultural Affairs** be pleased to state:

(a) the amount sanctioned for the Indian Expedition to Mount Everest; and

(b) the amount actually spent?

The Minister of Scientific Research and Cultural Affairs (Shri Humayun Kabir): (a) Rs. 6,46,185 including Rs. 46,185 for pre-Everest training expedition.

(b) Accounts have not yet been finalised.

Diamond Deposits in Andhra Pradesh

*215. **Shri Madhusudan Rao:** Will the Minister of **Steel, Mines and Fuel** be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have any proposal to exploit the diamond deposits in Banganapalle in Kurnool District in Andhra Pradesh;

(b) if so, the detailed programme thereof and the total expenditure to be incurred thereon; and

(c) if the answer to part (a) above be in the negative, the reasons therefor?

The Minister of Mines and Oil (Shri K. D. Malaviya): (a) to (c). It is proposed to take up detailed investigation of the diamond deposits in the area by the Geological Survey of India and Indian Bureau of Mines in the Third Five Year Plan. The question of exploitation of the deposits will arise only if the deposits are proved to be economical for working.

Electric Pig Iron Furnace

*216. **Shri Mohammed Imam:** Will the Minister of **Steel, Mines and Fuel** be pleased to state:

(a) whether an electric pig iron furnace has been sanctioned for the Mysore Iron and Steel Works, Bhadravatty; and

(b) what are the development schemes that are proposed for these works during the Third Five Year Plan period?

The Minister of Steel, Mines and Fuel (Sardar Swaran Singh): (a) and (b). No new electric pig iron furnace has been sanctioned recently. The expansion of the Mysore Iron & Steel Works raising their capacity from 30,000 tons of steel ingots to 100,000 tons per annum, which was originally included in the Second Five Year Plan will now be executed during the Third Five Year Plan. The new items included in this expansion are the L.D. Plant and Electric Furnace for steel making, a Billet & Light Structural Mill and ancilliary schemes for expansion of yard, foundry, etc., In addition, the Works will be completing during the Third Plan period, the installation of the Sintering Plant and a Ferro-Silicon Plant which were undertaken during the Second Five Year Plan period.

Rourkela Steel Plant

*217. **Shri Goray:** Will the Minister of **Steel, Mines and Fuel** be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the progress at the steel works at Rourkela is not according to the original time-table set for it;

(b) if so, what are the difficulties in keeping to the schedule;

(c) whether it is a fact that this loss of time is due to Government's system of calling tenders; and

(d) what action Government propose to take to remove this delay?

The Minister of Steel, Mines and Fuel (Sardar Swaran Singh): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d). Several factors have contributed to the delay in commissioning of the various units of the plant, as per the original schedule, such as—

(i) Delay in site formation due to the rocky strata being higher than originally envisaged.

(ii) Delay in civil engineering work due to the difficulties in finding suitable contractors with adequate equipment and organisation to undertake the work.

(iii) Labour strikes at Calcutta port and erection sites.

(iv) Transport difficulties in the movement of plant and equipment.

(v) Defective quality of the cement supplied and used for some time.

Delay in commissioning the plant cannot, however, be attributed to the procedure of calling for tenders. All efforts are being made to eliminate delay as far as possible.

Voluntary Organisations for the Handicapped

*218. **Shri Subodh Hansda:**
Shri R. C. Majhi:
Shri Nek Ram Negi:

Will the Minister of **Education** be pleased to state:

(a) the number of voluntary organisations working for the development of the orthopaedically handicapped people at present;

(b) what kind of assistance is given to these organisations; and

(c) the conditions under which such assistance is given?

The Minister of Education (Dr. K. L. Shrimali): (a) The exact number is not known, but the Ministry has information about eleven such organisations.

(b) These organisations are eligible for financial assistance representing upto 60% of the approved recurring and non-recurring expenditure.

(c) A copy of rules governing the scheme is laid on the Table of the Sabha. [*See* Appendix I, annexure No. 55].

Salar Jang Museum, Hyderabad

*219. **Maharajkumar Vijaya Anand:** Will the Minister of **Scientific Research and Cultural Affairs** be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Central Government is converting the Salar Jang Museum at Hyderabad into a National Museum;

(b) if so, whether there will be a Board of Trustees to manage the museum; and

(c) whether the museum will be acquired free of cost or any compensation will be paid to the present trustees of the museum?

The Minister of Scientific Research and Cultural Affairs (Shri Humayun Kabir): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) A Board of Trustees will be set up under an Act of Parliament.

(c) It has already been acquired as a gift.

Coal for Durgapur Steel Plants

*220. **Shri Tridib Kumar Chaudhuri:** Will the Minister of **Steel, Mines and Fuel** be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the coke oven of Hindustan Steel Project Plant at Durgapur and the coke oven and Bye-Products Plant of the Durgapur Industries Board are not getting their requisite supplies of coal;

(b) if so, what are the arrangements for supplying coal for the coke ovens of these plants at Durgapur and whether their requisition for coal from various supplying agencies were fully met month by month in 1960 to date, and

(c) if not, the reasons for the same?

The Minister of Steel, Mines and Fuel (Sardar Swaran Singh): (a) While supplies were not equal to programme of requirements, stocks never fell so low as to cause decrease in production. The Coke Oven Plant and the Steel Plant each held stocks equivalent to two to three weeks' requirements at the end of June and July respectively.

(b) and (c). The Steel Plant draws its supplies from collieries in Kusunda and Barakar areas, and the Coke Oven Plant from the Jharia, Barakar and Dishergarh areas and from the Giridih collieries. Between January and May this year, as a result of transport difficulties, the percentage of wagons allotted in relation to the basic programme for the two plants, was 63.1 and 59.2 respectively. There was an improvement in June when the percentages went up to 89·2 and 77·2. It is hoped that this improvement can be maintained in the coming months.

New Universities

*221. **Shri H. N. Mukerjee:**
Shri Ram Krishan Gupta:
Shri Prakash Vir Shastri:
Shri S. M. Banerjee:
Shri Rameshwar Tantia:

Will the Minister of **Education** be pleased to state:

(a) the number of new Universities set up and proposed to be soon set up in the country since the University Grants Commission has been established;

(b) whether the Commission was consulted in regard to the setting up of such Universities;

(c) if so, in how many cases; and

(d) whether the advice of the Commission, if asked for and tendered, was accepted in such cases?

The Minister of Education (Dr. K. L. Shrimali): (a) to (d). A statement is laid on the Table of the Sabha.

STATEMENT

(a) Ten new Universities have been set up and proposals for setting up six more Universities have been formulated since the establishment of the U.G.C. as a statutory body.

(b) and (c). The Commission was consulted in the case of 12 Universities.

(d) The position with regard to six Universities already set up is as under:—

(1) *Jabalpur*: The views of the Commission were not intimated because the additional information needed by them was not supplied by the State Government.

(2) *Kurukshetra*: The Commission's advice was not accepted by the State Government.

(3) *Rudrapur*: Most of the suggestions of the Commission were accepted.

(4) *Burdwan*: The proposal to set up the University was generally

approved by the Commission, but the draft Bill was not shown to them before enactment.

(5) and (6) *Universities in Bihar*: The proposal to establish 2 new Universities was generally approved by the Commission.

Tax Evaders in Bombay

*222. **Shri Parulekar:** Will the Minister of **Finance** be pleased to refer to the reply given to Starred Question No. 1159 on the 30th March, 1960 and state:

(a) whether investigation about the case referred to by Mr. Javery is over;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action taken thereon?

The Deputy Minister of Finance (Shrimati Tarkeshwari Sinha): (a) No. The investigation is still in progress.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Does not arise.

Tripura Administration

*223. **Shri Halder:**
Shri Nagi Reddy:

Will the Minister of **Home Affairs** be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have examined the proposal formulated by the Administration regarding the reorganisation of the set-up of the Secretariat and offices of the Tripura Administration;

(b) if so, the details of the proposal; and

(c) decision taken thereon?

The Minister of Home Affairs (Shri G. B. Pant): (a) to (c). Some suggestions received from the Tripura Administration regarding the reorganisation of the set-up of its Secretariat and offices are under Government's consideration.

These suggestion broadly follow the pattern of the re-organisation effected in the Delhi and Himachal Pradesh Administrations. As indicated in reply to Starred Question No. 197 on the 23rd November, 1959, in this House, the object of the reorganisation is:

(i) to rationalise the set-up of the Secretariat;

(ii) to reduce the size of the Secretariat and to provide, to the extent practicable, for the heads of Departments to function directly under the Chief Commissioner without the interposition of a Secretary; and

(iii) to ensure prompt disposal of cases.

Demand Notices by L.I.C.

*224. **Shri Nath Pai:** Will the Minister of **Finance** be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that demand notices are not issued by the Life Insurance Corporation to enable the policy-holders to be reminded of their premium;

(b) if so, what are the reasons for not issuing such notices; and

(c) whether it is also a fact that there have been a number of irregularities in recovering the premiums from the policy-holders?

The Deputy Minister of Finance (Shrimati Tarkeshwari Sinha): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) No, Sir.

Financial Advisers in Ministries

*225. **Shri N. R. Muniswamy:** Will the Minister of **Finance** be pleased to state:

(a) whether a Financial Adviser had been appointed in every Ministry in accordance with the recommendations made in the 8th Report of the Public Accounts Committee (1957-58);

(b) if so, when was this system introduced;

(c) how has this system worked;

(d) whether there is a move to suspend this system; and

(e) if so, the reasons therefor?

The Deputy Minister of Finance (Shrimati Tarkeshwari Sinha): (a) and (b). A scheme of internal Financial Advisers attached to all Ministries of the Government of India was introduced in August 1958. It was part of a larger scheme of enhanced delegation of financial powers made to Ministries. The whole scheme is set out in Finance Ministry's Office Memorandum No. F.9(5)-E(Coord)|58 dated the 18th August, 1958, copies of which are available in the Library of Parliament.

(c) and (d). The scheme has worked satisfactorily. There is no move to suspend it. In regard to some Ministries, however, arrangements for financial advice have undergone a revision, at their request, to provide for a combined system of internal and external advisers without curtailing the enhanced powers delegated to the Ministries.

(e) Does not arise.

Election Expenses

*226. **Shri Ram Krishan Gupta:**
Shri Rameshwar Tantia:
Sardar Iqbal Singh:
Shri D. C. Sharma:

Will the Minister of **Law** be pleased to refer to the reply given to Starred Question No. 240 on the 19th February, 1960 and state:

(a) whether the suggestions made by the political parties in India for the reduction of election expenses have been considered by the Election Commission; and

(b) if so, what decision has been taken?

The Deputy Minister of Law (Shri R. M. Hajarnavis): (a) and (b). A Note prepared by the Election Commission embodying their views on the various suggestions made by the four All India Political Parties is placed on the Table of the House. [*See* Appendix I, annexure No. 56]. Government will now consider the suggestions in the light of the views expressed by the Election Commission.

Expert Committee on Consumption of Steel

*227. **Shri Rameshwar Tantia:**
Shri Ram Krishan Gupta:
Sardar Iqbal Singh:
Shri Chintamoni Panigrahi:
Shri Parulekar:

Will the Minister of **Scientific Research and Cultural Affairs** be pleased to refer to the reply given to Starred Question No. 784 on the 11th March, 1960 and state:

(a) whether the Expert Committee appointed to survey our capacity to absorb the four-to-five million tons of finished steel to be produced by 1960-61, has submitted its report; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

The Minister of Scientific Research and Cultural Affairs (Shri Humayun Kabir): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Report is available in the Library of the House.

Expansion of Burmah Shell Refineries

*228. **Sardar Iqbal Singh:**
Shri Ram Krishan Gupta:
Shri Vidya Charan Shukla:
Shri D. C. Sharma:

Will the Minister of **Steel, Mines and Fuel** be pleased to refer to the reply given to Starred Question No. 1324 on the 17th April, 1960 and state:

(a) whether Government have examined the proposal for the expansion of refineries of Burmah Shell Oil Company; and

(b) if so, the result thereof?

The Minister of Mines and Oil (Shri K. D. Malaviya): (a) and (b). In the light of the discussions with the Government representatives, the Company are re-examining their proposal.

Oil at Jawalamukhi

*229. **Shri D. C. Sharma:** Will the Minister of **Steel, Mines and Fuel** be pleased to refer to the reply given to Starred Question No. 258 on the 19th February, 1960 and state:

(a) the further progress made in drilling for oil at Jawalamukhi;

(b) the result thereof;

(c) whether any further assessment of the natural gas found in the areas has since been made; and

(d) what further programme has been drawn for drilling more wells?

The Minister of Mines and Oil (Shri K. D. Malaviya): (a) Testing of Jawalamukhi deep well No. 1 was stopped on 19-3-1960 and the equipment transported to the site of Jawalamukhi deep well No. 2. The derrick has been rigged up and well No. 2 is expected to be spudded in very shortly.

Testing of Jawalamukhi structural hole No. 5 was completed on 6-4-1960.

(b) Two horizons with moderate to low pressure gas were discovered in Jawalamukhi Deep well No. 1. The quantity of gas ranged from about 1 million cft. to 6,00,000 cft. per day. There was further a tendency of gradual decrease in the flow of gas. In order to prove whether economic quantity of gas can be exploited from this area, more deep wells have to be drilled in the area. This programme is going on.

In structural hole No. 5 no hydrocarbon production was obtained. Useful sub-surface geological information has, however, been collected from these wells.

(c) No, Sir. It is too premature to assess.

(d) Drilling of another deep test well, Jawalamukhi No. 2, is about to start.

Exploitation of Copper in Sikkim

*230. **Shri P. K. Deo:**
Dr. Samanta Nahar:

Will the Minister of **Steel, Mines and Fuel** be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of India have joined hands with the Government of Sikkim for the exploitation of copper and other minerals in Sikkim area; and

(b) whether the Government of India have purchased 49 per cent of the shares of the Sikkim Mining Corporation?

The Minister of Mines and Oil (Shri K. D. Malaviya): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Sikkim Mining Corporation has an authorised capital of Rupees one crore consisting of one lakh shares of Rs. 100 each, of which 49 per cent of the shares will be held by the Government of India. So far the Corporation has issued 10 000 shares only out of which the Government of India have purchased 4,900 shares.

Production of Pig Iron and Steel

*231. **Shri Supakar:** Will the **Minister of Steel, Mines and Fuel** be pleased to state:

(a) the total quantity of pig iron and steel produced in the months of April, May and June, 1960 in Rourkela, Bhilai and Durgapur; and

(b) by what percentage the actual production is short of target for each plant?

The Minister of Steel, Mines and Fuel (Sardar Swaran Singh): (a) and (b). A statement is laid on the Table of the House. [*See* Appendix I, annexure No. 57.]

Fire in the Survey of India Stores Office, Dehra Dun

*232. **Shri S. M. Banerjee:**
Shri Jagdish Awasthi:
Shri Naval Prabhakar:
Shri P. K. Deo:
Dr. Ram Subhag Singh:
Shri Arjun Singh Bhadauria:
Raja Mahendra Pratap:

Will the Minister of **Scientific Research and Cultural Affairs** be pleased to state:

(a) whether fire gutted some godowns of the Survey of India Stores Office at Dehra Dun on the 6th and the 10th June, 1960;

(b) if so, the causes thereof; and

(c) the estimated loss incurred thereby?

The Minister of Scientific Research and Cultural Affairs (Shri Humayun Kabir): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The causes of the fires are still under investigation.

(c) Rs. 5,67,100.

Jharia and Raniganj Collieries

*233. **Shri Subodh Hansda:**
Shri R. C. Majhi:
Shri Nek Ram Negi:

Will the Minister for **Steel, Mines and Fuel** be pleased to state:

(a) whether the detailed project reports of the sand stowing and ropeway schemes in the Jharia and Raniganj coalfields have been received by Government;

(b) if so, the total estimated cost of the projects; and

(c) when these schemes will be implemented?

The Minister of Steel, Mines and Fuel (Sardar Swaran Singh): (a) Altogether 7 ropeways are contemplated, four for the Jharia field and three for the Raniganj field. Government have already received the project reports for one of the ropeways for Jharia and the three ropeways for Raniganj. The remaining project reports are expected to be received shortly.

(b) An estimate of the total cost can be given only after all the project reports are in and the tender action for the procurement of plant and equipment and the erection of the ropeways is worked out.

(c) A global tender enquiry for the award of a contract for the first ropeway for Jharia is to be put out in India by the Coal Board by about the middle of this month. Similar action in regard to the other ropeways will be taken on the basis of the project reports. It is expected that all the seven ropeways would be commissioned by the end of 1962.

Donations to Educational Institutions

*234. **Shri H. N. Mukerjee:** Will the Minister of **Education** be pleased to state:

(a) whether the University Grants Commission has examined the view and also the practice of certain Universities that it is permissible to take donations while admitting students to educational institutions and particularly medical colleges; and

(b) whether such practice will continue to be countenanced?

The Minister of Education (Dr. K. L. Shrimali): (a) No, Sir.

(b) The question does not arise.

Smuggling of Gold Through Post

*235. **Shri Ram Krishan Gupta:**
Shri A. M. Tariq:
Sardar Iqbal Singh:
Shrimati Mafida Ahmed:

Will the Minister of **Finance** be pleased to refer to the reply given to Starred Question No. 582 on the 3rd March, 1960 and state:

(a) the result of the investigations conducted regarding smuggling of gold through postal envelopes; and

(b) whether any arrest has been made so far?

The Deputy Minister of Finance (Shri B. R. Bhagat): (a) and (b). The investigations have since been completed. So far eight arrests have been made in all at various places and prosecution has been launched in Calcutta against two persons.

Polytechnics in Punjab

*236. **Shri D. C. Sharma:** Will the Minister of **Scientific Research and Cultural Affairs** be pleased to refer to the reply given to Starred Question No. 262 on the 19th February, 1960 and state:

(a) the progress made in opening Centrally sponsored polytechnics at Sirsa, Hamirpur and Batala in Punjab; and

(b) whether Government have since received the proposal for the location of the State sponsored polytechnic?

The Minister of Scientific Research and Cultural Affairs (Shri Humayun Kabir): (a) The location of two polytechnics at Sirsa and Batala has been finalised. A detailed scheme for the Sirsa Polytechnic formulated by the State Government is now under the examination of the Northern Regional Committee. The detailed scheme for the Batala Polytechnic is awaited from the State Government.

The question of the location of the third polytechnic is under discussion between the Central Government and the State Government.

(b) Yes, the polytechnic is proposed to be set up at Jhajjar.

Steel Equalisation Fund

*237. **Shri Supakar:** Will the Minister of **Steel, Mines and Fuel** be pleased to refer to the reply given to Starred Question No. 634 on the 25th February, 1959 and state what steps have been taken to calculate and realise the dues from the Tata Iron & Steel Co. and Indian Iron & Steel Co. on account of the Steel Equalisation Fund since the Public Accounts Committee submitted their report on the subject?

The Minister of Steel, Mines and Fuel (Sardar Swaran Singh): The work relating to compilation of the necessary statements has been started in the Iron & Steel Controller's Office and considerable progress has already been made.

Employment Exchanges for Orthopaedically Handicapped

*238. **Shri Subodh Hansda:**
Shri R. C. Majhi:
Shri Nek Ram Negi:

Will the Minister of **Education** be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to set up employment exchanges for the orthopaedically handicapped; and

(b) if so, in which places?

The Minister of Education (Dr. K. L. Shrimali): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Grants to Cultural Organisations in Bombay

360. **Shri Pangarkar:** Will the Minister of **Scientific Research and Cultural Affairs** be pleased to state:

(a) the names of organisations which were given grants for promotion of cultural activities in Bombay State during the year 1959-60; and

(b) the amount sanctioned to each of them?

The Minister of Scientific Research and Cultural Affairs (Shri Humayun Kabir): (a) and (b).

Names of Organisations	Amount
	Rs.
Dharma Kosha Mandal, Wai	7,185
Bhandarkar Oriental Research Institute, Poona	7,200
Gokhale Institute of Politics & Economics, Poona	10,000
Bharata Itihasa Samshodhaka Mandala, Poona	6,000
Shri G. R. Bhide, Kohlapur	10,000
Vidvaratna Shri R. G. Kalangade, Bombay	5,000
Maharashtra Sahitya Parishat, Sholapur	500
Dayanalata Mandal, Bombay	2,000
Shri S. V. Sohoni, Bombay	2,500
Bhartiya Charitrakosha Mandal, Poona	5,000
Bhartiya Sanskriti Kosha Mandal, Poona	3,000
Gujarat Vidyapith, Ahmedabad	25,000
Prince of Wales Museum of Western India, Bombay	1,00,000
Gandhi Smriti, Bhavanagar	5,000
Children Museum, Amreli	3,000
Sri Shanmukhananda Fine Arts and Sangeetha Sabha, Bombay	50,000
Shri J. C. Shaikh, Poona	500
The PEN all India Centre, Bombay	6,000

The above does not include the grants given by the Akademies.)

Merit-cum-Means Scholarships in Bombay

361. Shri Pangarkar: Will the Minister of **Scientific Research and Cultural Affairs** be pleased to state the number of Merit-*cum*-Means Scholarships allotted to each Technical Institute in Bombay State during 1959-60?

The Minister of Scientific Research and Cultural Affairs (Shri Humayun Kabir): The number of scholarships allotted to Technical Institutions in the erstwhile Bombay State in 1959-60 under the Merit-*cum*-Means Scholarships Scheme is shown in a statement laid on the Table. [*See* Appendix I, annexure No. 58].

Repayment of Loan to I.B.R.D.

362. Shri V. P. Nayar:
Shri Nagi Reddy:
Shri Parulekar:

Will the Minister of **Finance** be pleased to state:

(a) whether any commitment charges have been paid to the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development as per Article II, Section 2 (a), (b) and (c) of the loan agreement with the Bank dated September 29, 1949; and

(b) if so, what are the amounts paid year-wise?

The Minister of Finance (Shri Morarji Desai): (a) Yes Sir.

(b)

	Rs.
1950-51	4,51,208
1951-52	1,92,409
1952-53	1,37,480
1953-54	78,688
1954-55	843
TOTAL	8,60,628

Ammunition Boxes

363. Shri P. K. Deo: Will the Minister of **Defence** be pleased to state:

(a) whether all the requirements of ammunition boxes are met by indigenous sources;

(b) whether the Forest Research Institute have found out that Kiln-seasoned Mango and Salai wood is as good as Teak for the purpose of ammunition boxes; and

(c) if so, whether for all ammunition boxes now manufactured Mango and Salai wood is used instead of Teak?

The Minister of Defence (Shri Krishna Menon): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Based on the data published by the Forest Research Institute and our own experience, it has been found that K.lln-seasoned mango and Salai wood can be used as substitutes for Teak in the manufacture of ammunition boxes. The use of Kiln-seasoned mango and salai (Sapwood only) for manufacture of ammunition packages was approved as early as 1951.

(c) Teak is one of the approved varieties, but the actual species of wood used in the manufacture of ammunition boxes depends upon the supply position from time to time. Supplies of Kiln-seasoned mango wood have materialised in plenty but this is not so in the case of Kiln-seasoned Salai.

Timber Treating Plants

364. Shri P. K. Deo: Will the Minister of **Defence** be pleased to state:

(a) whether Timber treating plants have been established by the Defence Ministry for treatment of timber for packing cases and ammunition boxes;

(b) where these plants are established and what are their production capacities; and

(c) whether the country is self-sufficient in this regard?

The Minister of Defence (Shri Krishna Menon): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) This Ministry has no adequate data to answer this part of the question.

Jama Masjid, Delhi

365. Shri D. C. Sharma: Will the Minister of **Scientific Research and Cultural Affairs** be pleased to state:

(a) whether any allocation has been made for the maintenance and repair of Jama Masjid, Delhi, during 1960-61; and

(b) if so, the amount allocated for the purpose?

The Deputy Minister of Scientific Research and Cultural Affairs (Dr. M. M. Das): (a) and (b). An expenditure not exceeding Rs. 30,000 has been sanctioned for repairs to the Jama Masjid during 1960-61.

Cases Pending in Punjab High Court

366. Shri D. C. Sharma: Will the Minister of **Home Affairs** be pleased to state the total number of cases pending in Punjab High Court for more than 2 years, 3 years and 5 years?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Home Affairs (Shri Datar): The information is being obtained and will be laid on the Table of Lok Sabha.

Welfare of S.C. and S.T. in Punjab

367. { Shri D. C. Sharma: / Shri Daljit Singh:

Will the Minister of **Home Affairs** be pleased to state the total amount granted by the Central Government in 1959-60 for the welfare of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes in Punjab?

The Deputy Minister of Home Affairs (Shrimati Alva):

(Rs. in lakhs)

Category of Backward Classes	Amount granted in 1959-60		
	State Sector	Central Sector	Total
Scheduled Castes .	7·65	10·04	17·69
Scheduled Tribes . .	3·43	17·79	21·22
TOTAL	11·08	27·83	38·91

Revenue Collections in Punjab

368. Shri D. C. Sharma: Will the Minister of **Finance** be pleased to state the amount of money collected by the Government of India by way of Taxes and other Revenue measures in the Punjab State during 1959-60?

The Minister of Finance (Shri Morarji Desai): The amount of money collected from Direct Taxes, Central Excise and Land Customs in the Punjab State during 1959-60 is Rs. 13,43,81,000. The receipts under various major heads in the group "Civil Administration, Currency, Mint, Civil Works etc.", are receipts not on account of any revenue measures adopted, but on account of services rendered and supplies made.

Cantonment Act

369. Shri D. C. Sharma: Will the Minister of **Defence** be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 294 on the 19th February, 1960 and state the up-to-date progress made regarding the proposal to amend the Cantonment Act?

The Minister of Defence (Shri Krishna Menon): The scrutiny of amendments relating to Sections 1-194 has been completed. The remaining amendments are under consideration.

Crude Oil

370. Shri Jinachandran: Will the Minister of **Steel, Mines and Fuel** be pleased to state:

(a) the total quantity of crude oil so far produced in India and refined in 1959 and 1960;

(b) the quantity of crude oil imported from abroad for refining in the three Refineries in India (country-wise);

(c) the quantity of different petroleum products produced in each of the three Refineries during the year;

(d) the quantity of refined petroleum products imported during the years;

(e) whether any petroleum products were exported from India and if so, the details thereof; and

(f) whether the three refineries are working upto their maximum capacity?

The Minister of Mines and Oil (Shri K. D. Malaviya): (a) to (e). A statement is laid on the Table of the House. [*See* Appendix I, annexure No. 59.]

(f) Yes, Sir.

Indian Expedition to Everest

371. { Shri A. K. Gopalan: / Shrimati Minimata:

Will the Minister of **Scientific Research and Cultural Affairs** be pleased to state:

(a) the composition of the last Indian Expedition to the Mount Everest; and

(b) whether any report has been made by the leader of the team on their experience etc.?

The Minister of Scientific Research and Cultural Affairs (Shri Humayun Kabir): (a) Composition of the Indian Mount Everest Expedition, 1960:—

(1) Brigadier Gyan Singh (Leader)
(2) Shri K. F. Bunshah (Deputy Leader)
(3) Shri Da Namgyal
(4) Shri Ang Temba
(5) Shri N. Gombu
(6) Shri Sonam Gyatso
(7) Captain N. Kumar
(8) Lt. M. S. Kohli
(9) Shri C. P. Vohra
(10) Shri B. D. Misra
(11) Shri R. Vikram Singh
(12) Flt. Lt. A. K. Chowdhary
(13) Capt. A. B. Jungalwala
(14) Capt. S. K. Das
(15) Flt. Lt. M. S. Bhagwanani
(16) Shri Sohan Singh
(17) Shri S. U. Shankar Rao
(18) Shri C. V. Gopal
(19) Lt. S. C. Nanda

(20) Flt. Lt. A. J. S. Grewal
(21) Naik Balakrishnan
(22) Signalman O. P. Vaid.

(b) Yes, Sir.

Foreign Exchange for Delegations

372. Shri Birendra Bahadur Singhji: Will the Minister of **Finance** be pleased to state:

(a) the amount of foreign exchange used in Delegation of Ministerial visits to the foreign countries during period from 1st April, 1960, to 1st August, 1960;

(b) whether there are any rules for grant of foreign exchange to individuals, students and persons proceeding on health grounds to foreign countries; and

(c) if so, whether a copy of such rules will be laid on the Table?

The Minister of Finance (Shri Morarji Desai): (a) The information asked for is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House in due course.

(b) and (c). The broad principles of Exchange Control are contained in the Exchange Control Manual which is a published document of the Reserve Bank of India and copies of which are available in the Parliament Library. Besides, the policy regarding release of foreign exchange to persons going abroad on various accounts has already been indicated on the Floor of the House from time to time (*vide* replies to Starred Question No. 1144 on the 22nd December, 1959, Starred Question No. 588 on the 4th December, 1959, Starred Question No. 1948 on the 1st May, 1958 and Starred Question No. 94 on the 17th July, 1957).

Development of Oriya Language

373. Shri Chintamoni Panigrahi: Will the Minister of **Scientific Research and Cultural Affairs** be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Orissa Government asked for grants for the development of Oriya language during 1960-61;

(b) if so, how much grant was given; and

(c) how this grant has been utilised so far?

The Minister of Scientific Research and Cultural Affairs (Shri Humayun Kabir): (a) and (b). Yes, Sir, but no grant has yet been made, as the proposals are under consideration.

(c) Does not arise.

Production and Consumption of Steel

374. Shri Chintamoni Panigrahi: Will the Minister of **Steel, Mines and Fuel** be pleased to state:

(a) the total output of steel in public and private sector in India in 1959-60 and in 1960-61 so far;

(b) whether it is a fact that the *per capita* consumption of steel in India was less in 1959-60 than in 1958-59; and

(c) if so, what was the *per capita* consumption of steel in India in 1958-59 and 1959-60?

The Minister of Steel, Mines and Fuel (Sardar Swaran Singh): (a) The production of steel has been as follows:

(in tons)

Year	Total production of finished steel	
	Public sector	Private sector
1959-60 . . .	34,100	1,837,000
1960-61 (upto June, 1960) (provisional)	9,500	417,000

(b) and (c). *Per capita* consumption of steel in India in 1958-59 was 14 lbs., and in 1959-60, 15.43 lbs.

School Hostels in Orissa

375. Shri Chintamoni Panigrahi: Will the Minister of **Education** be pleased to state:

(a) whether Central Government have sanctioned any loan to the Orissa

Government for the construction of school hostels during 1959-60 and 1960-61 so far; and

(b) if so, the total amount sanctioned for each institution?

The Minister of Education (Dr. K. L. Shrimali): (a) No.

(b) Does not arise.

Coal Mines in Orissa

376. Shri Chintamoni Panigrahi: Will the Minister of **Steel, Mines and Fuel** be pleased to state:

(a) whether lands have been acquired for the new coal mines in Balanda and Talcher in Orissa;

(b) whether the villagers of Badasingida village have made representations for shifting the boundary line from the present site; and

(c) whether their petitions are being considered?

The Minister of Steel, Mines and Fuel (Sardar Swaran Singh): (a) Yes; the relevant notifications were issued on 18th March, 1960 and possession was taken on 15th April, 1960.

(b) Yes.

(c) The petition was considered, but the request of the villagers to shift the boundary line could not be conceded since the entire notified area consists of coal bearing land. In fact prospecting of further adjoining areas has also advanced considerably.

Cost of Production of Steel

377. Shri Ram Krishan Gupta:
Shri Rameshwar Tantia:
Sardar Iqbal Singh:

Will the Minister of **Steel, Mines and Fuel** be pleased to refer to the reply given to Starred Question No. 810 on the 11th March, 1960 and state:

(a) whether the revision of estimates regarding the cost of production of steel in the three steel plants has since been completed; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

The Minister of Steel, Mines and Fuel (Sardar Swaran Singh): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Progress in Steel Plants

378. Shri Ram Krishan Gupta:
Shri Rameshwar Tantia:
Sardar Iqbal Singh:

Will the Minister of **Steel, Mines and Fuel** be pleased to state:

(a) the nature of progress made so far in the three steel plants (plant-wise); and

(b) when will they go into full production?

The Minister of Steel, Mines and Fuel (Sardar Swaran Singh): (a) and (b). A statement is laid on the Table. [*See* Appendix I, annexure No. 60].

Central Basic School in Delhi

379. Shri Ram Krishan Gupta:
Shri Rameshwar Tantia:
Sardar Iqbal Singh:

Will the Minister of **Education** be pleased to refer to the reply given to Starred Question No. 1171 dated 30th March, 1960 and state at what stage is the proposal for establishing a Central Basic School in Delhi?

The Minister of Education (Dr. K. L. Shrimali): The proposal has since been dropped.

Service of Librarians

380. Shri Ram Krishan Gupta:
Shri Rameshwar Tantia:
Sardar Iqbal Singh:
Shri Madhusudan Rao:

Will the Minister of **Education** be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 1588 on the 30th March, 1960 and state at what

stage is the proposal for formation of a separate service of Librarians?

The Minister of Education (Dr. K. L. Shrimali): The question is still under consideration.

Study of Art and Craft in Delhi

381. **Shri Ram Krishan Gupta:**
Shri Rameshwar Tantia:
Sardar Iqbal Singh:
Shri M. L. Dwivedi:
Shri Naval Prabhakar:

Will the Minister of **Education** be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 1153 on the 16th March, 1960 and state at what stage is the proposal to make the study of art and craft compulsory in middle schools in Delhi and its rural areas from next July?

The Minister of Education (Dr. K. L. Shrimali): The study of art and craft has been made compulsory in the middle schools under the Delhi Municipal Corporation. The question of making the study of these subjects compulsory in the middle departments of Higher Secondary Schools is still under consideration.

Temporary Posts in Defence Establishments

382. **Shri Ram Krishan Gupta:**
Shri Rameshwar Tantia:
Sardar Iqbal Singh:

Will the Minister of **Defence** be pleased to refer to the reply given to Starred Question No. 689 on the 8th March, 1960 and state at what stage is the question of conversion of more temporary posts of civilians in Defence Establishments into permanent ones?.

The Minister of Defence (Shri Krishna Menon): Government orders have since been issued converting 331 temporary posts into permanent ones in certain cadres in Ordnance Factories. Action with regard to other Establishments is in hand.

International Indian Ocean Expedition

383. **Shri Ram Krishan Gupta:**
Shri Madhusudan Rao:

Will the Minister of **Scientific Research and Cultural Affairs** be pleased to refer to the reply given to Starred Question No. 1506 on 14th April, 1960, and state:

(a) whether Government have considered the question of joining the International Indian Ocean Expedition organised by the Special Committee of Oceanic Research set up by the International Council of Scientific Unions; and

(b) if so, with what result?

The Minister of Scientific Research and Cultural Affairs (Shri Humayun Kabir): (a) and (b). The matter is under consideration.

Office of the Iron and Steel Controller

384. **Shri Ram Krishan Gupta:**
Sardar Iqbal Singh:
Shri Parulekar:

Will the Minister of **Steel, Mines and Fuel** be pleased to refer to the reply given to Starred Question No. 1420 on the 11th April, 1960 and state:

(a) whether the enquiries against some officials in the office of the Iron and Steel Controller, Calcutta and Bombay have been completed; and

(b) if so, the result thereof?

The Minister of Steel, Mines and Fuel (Sardar Swaran Singh): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

दिल्ली में नये कालेज

३५. **श्री प्रकाश वीर शास्त्री :** क्या शिक्षा मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या यह सच है कि दिल्ली के प्राय: सभी कालेज एक ही जगह पर हैं ;

(ख) क्या भविष्य में खोले जाने वाले नये कालिजों को अलग-अलग स्थानों में स्थापित करने का सरकार का विचार है ;

(ग) दिल्ली में कितने कालिज खोले जाने वाले हैं ; और

(घ) क्या दिल्ली में पूना विश्वविद्यालय जैसा एक महिला विश्वविद्यालय स्थापित करने का प्रश्न भी विचाराधीन है ?

शिक्षा मंत्री (डा० का० ला० श्रीमाली) : (क) जी, नहीं ।

(ख) नये कालिजों के स्थापित करने स्थानों का निर्णय दिल्ली विश्वविद्यालय की सिफारिशों के आधार पर तथा सम्बन्धित अधिकारियों से परामर्श करके उचित स्थान मिलने पर किया जाता है ।

(ग) अभी कोई भी निश्चित प्रस्ताव विचाराधीन नहीं है । फिर भी दिल्ली में स्कूल और कालिज शिक्षा पर पिछले साल सरकार द्वारा नियुक्त किये गये कार्यकारी दल के निष्कर्षों के अनुसार अगले २० वर्षों में हर २ साल बाद ३ नये कालेज खोलने पड़ेंगे ।

(घ) ऐसा कोई प्रस्ताव सरकार के विचाराधीन नहीं है ।

आर० टी० ई० असिस्टेंट

३८६. श्री म० ला० द्विवेदी : क्या गृह-कार्य मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या आर० टी० ई० (रेगुलर टेम्परेरी इस्टेब्लिशमेंट) असिस्टेंटों की तीसरी सूची अन्तिम रूप से तैयार हो गई है ;

(ख) यदि हां, उस सूची में कितने व्यक्ति स्थायी किये गये हैं ; और

(ग) यदि नहीं, तो यह सूची कब तक तैयार होगी ?

गृह-कार्य मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री दातार) (क) से (ग) : आर० टी० ई० (रेगुलर टेम्परेरी इस्टेब्लिशमेंट) असिस्टेंटों की तीसरी सूची के निकट भविष्य में ही बन जाने की आशा है । सूची के तैयार होने के बाद जब भी विभागीय कोटा (Departmental Quota) में स्थायी रिक्तियां (Vacancies) उपलब्ध होंगी तब इस सूची में से व्यक्ति स्थायी किये जायेंगे ।

हिन्दी असिस्टेंटों की पदोन्नति

३८७. श्री म० ला० द्विवेदी : क्या गृह-कार्य मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) गत जनवरी या फरवरी में हिन्दी असिस्टेंटों की पदोन्नति के जो आदेश दिये गये थे उनके अनुसार कितने व्यक्ति फिर से एल० डी० सी० या यू० डी० सी० बना दिये गये ; और

(ख) इन लोगों की औसत सेवा कितनी है और इन्हें अपने मासिक वेतन में औसतन कितनी हानि हुई है ?

गृह-कार्य मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री दातार) (क) आठ ।

(ख) सूचना इकट्ठी की जा रही है और सभा-पटल पर यथा समय रख दी जायेगी ।

पुलिस क्वार्टरों के लिये राज्यों को ऋण

३८८. श्री म० ला० द्विवेदी : क्या गृह-कार्य मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) पुलिस के लिए क्वार्टर बनाने के हेतु अब तक राज्य सरकारों को कितना ऋण दिया जा चुका है ; और

(ख) राज्य सरकारें कितनी अवधि में ये ऋण चुकायेंगी ?

गृह-कार्य मंत्री (श्री गो० ब० पन्त) : (क) पुलिस के लिये क्वार्टर बनाने के हेतु अब तक राज्य सरकारों को ६,२६,१३,६८८ रुपये की धन राशि का ऋण दिया जा चुका है । इसके अतिरिक्त २,२६,५०,००० रुपये के ऋण के लिये शीघ्र ही मंजूरी दी जा रही है ।

(ख) ये ऋण राज्य सरकारों द्वारा २५ वर्षों में चुकाने हैं ।

प्राथमिक स्कूलों में विज्ञान

३८६. श्री म० ला० द्विवेदी : क्या शिक्षा मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) प्राथमिक स्कूलों में विज्ञान की पढ़ाई में सुधार करने के लिए क्या कोई धन मंजूर किया गया है ; और

(ख) यदि हां, तो इस कार्य के लिए किन किन राज्यों को अनुदान मंजूर किये गये हैं ?

शिक्षा मंत्री (डा० का० ला० श्रीमाली) : (क) जी हां, केन्द्र द्वारा चलाई गई प्राथमिक स्कूलों में विज्ञान की पढ़ाई में सुधार की योजना के अन्तर्गत १९५९-६० के दौरान में इस उद्देश्य के लिए केन्द्रीय अनुदान स्वीकृत किये गये ।

(ख) १९५९-६० के दौरान में इस योजना के अन्तर्गत निम्नलिखित राज्य सरकारों के लिए केन्द्रीय अनुदान स्वीकृत किये गये :—

(१) बम्बई
(२) उत्तर प्रदेश
(३) मध्य प्रदेश
(४) केरल
(५) उड़ीसा

दिल्ली में प्राथमिक स्कूल

३९०. श्री म० ला० द्विवेदी : क्या शिक्षा मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) इस समय दिल्ली प्रशासन के अन्तर्गत कितने प्राथमिक स्कूल चल रहे हैं ; और

(ख) उन में अध्यापकों की भरती के लिए कौन सा तरीका अपनाया गया है ?

शिक्षा मंत्री (डा० का० ला० श्रीमाली) : (क) कोई भी नहीं ।

(ख) प्रश्न ही नहीं उठता ।

राष्ट्रीय सेना प्रशिक्षार्थी दल (राइफल्स)

३९१. श्री म० ला० द्विवेदी : क्या प्रतिरक्षा मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) राष्ट्रीय सेना प्रशिक्षार्थी दल (राइफल्स) में १९६० में अब तक कितने व्यक्ति भरती किये गये ; और

(ख) प्रशिक्षण सुविधाएं बढ़ाने के लिए क्या कोई नया कार्यक्रम बनाने का सरकार का विचार है ?

प्रतिरक्षा मंत्री (श्री कृष्ण मेनन) : (क) राष्ट्रीय सेना प्रशिक्षार्थी दल (राइफल्स) नाम की कोई संस्था नहीं है । शायद राष्ट्रीय छात्र सेना दल (राइफल्स) के सम्बन्ध में सूचना चाहिये। जुलाई मास के अन्त तक राष्ट्रीय छात्र सेना दल (राइफल्स) में ८३,४९३ छात्र और ४०५४ छात्राएं भर्ती की जा चुकी हैं ।

(ख) और भरती की जा रही है, और ३१ मार्च, १९६१ तक इस संख्या को २ लाख पचास हजार तक पहुंचाने का विचार है ।

Quarters for Civilian Employees in Defence Ministry

392. Shri S. M. Banerjee: Will the Minister of **Defence** be pleased to state:

(a) whether more quarters are to be constructed for the civilian employees in Defence Establishments; and

(b) the number of quarters constructed during 1959 and constructed or to be constructed during 1960?

The Minister of Defence (Shri Krishna Menon): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Lok Sabha as soon as possible.

दिल्ली में मनोरंजन कर

३९३. **श्री नवल प्रभाकर :** क्या **गृह-कार्य** मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) १९५९–६० में दिल्ली में कितने खेल-तमाशों और प्रदर्शनियों पर मनोरंजन कर नहीं लिया गया ; और

(ख) किस प्रकार के खेल-तमाशों और प्रदर्शनियों पर कर नहीं लिया गया ?

गृह-कार्य मंत्री (श्री गो० ब० पन्त) : (क) तथा (ख). १९५९–६० में दिल्ली में कुल ३४६ खेल-तमाशों पर, यू० पी० मनोरंजन और बैटिंग कर अधिनियम, १९३७ (U. P. Entertainments & Betting Tax Act, 1937) की धारा ६ के अधीन, जो कि दिल्ली में भी लागू है, मनोरंजन कर नहीं लिया गया । इन खेल-तमाशों में कई रजिस्टर्ड संस्थाओं (सोसाइटियों), क्रीड़ा और नाटक क्लबों, सरकारी विभागों तथा विश्व-कृषि मेले द्वारा संयोजित नाना प्रकार के सांस्कृतिक खेल-तमाशे और चल-चित्र शामिल हैं ।

अश्लील साहित्य

३९४. **{श्री नवल प्रभाकर : / श्री म० ला० द्विवेदी :**

क्या गृह-कार्य मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) १९६० में अब तक दिल्ली में अश्लील साहित्य बेचने के कारण कितने व्यक्ति गिरफ्तार किये गये ; और

(ख) इन में से कितने व्यक्ति दोषी पाये गये ?

गृह-कार्य मंत्री (श्री गो० ब० पन्त) : (क) दस ।

(ख) मुकदमें अभी न्यायालय को नहीं भेजे गये हैं ।

हिमाचल प्रदेश में बालकों के क्लब

३९६. **श्री पद्म देव :** क्या गृह-कार्य मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि हिमाचल प्रदेश में पुलिस विभाग के अधीन बालकों के क्लब खोलने की योजना के सम्बन्ध में क्या प्रगति हुई है ?

गृह-कार्य उपमंत्री (श्रीमती अल्वा) : १९५५ से लेकर हिमाचल प्रदेश में बालकों के ३२ क्लब खोले गए हैं, जिनकी सदस्य संख्या ८०२ है ।

Credit from Export-Import Bank of U.S.A.

397. Shri Vidya Charan Shukla: Will the Minister of **Finance** be pleased to state how much of the $150 million credit of Export-Import Bank of U.S.A. has been utilised till now?

The Minister of Finance (Shri Morarji Desai): The entire amount of the credit of $150 million from the U.S. Export-Import Bank has been allocated to various development schemes/projects. The value of orders so far placed under the credit amounts to about $95 million and it is expected that ordering to the full value of the credit will be completed before March, 1961. The amount drawn so far in reimbursement of payments made is $30·63 million.

I.N.S. Kistna

398. Shri Assar: Will the Minister of **Defence** be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that I.N.S. Kistna had helped an American tanker S.S. "Atlantic States" near Bombay harbour recently; and

(b) if so, the details of the incident?

The Minister of Defence (Shri Krishna Menon): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Information was received at about 1430 hours on 16th May, 1960, that the American Tanker S.S. ATLANTIC STATES was in difficulty about 85 miles West North-West of Bombay. She had blown her motor and required immediate assistance by way of towing. I.N.S. KISTNA was immediately despatched and arrived at the scene at about 2345 hours the same day. Thereafter S.S. ATLANTIC STATES was taken in tow by I.N.S. KISTNA and both ships arrived at Bombay at 0200 hours on 18th May, 1960.

Iron Sheets for Delhi

399. Shri D. C. Sharma: Will the Minister of **Steel, Mines and Fuel** be pleased to state:

(a) the demand of iron sheets, by **Delhi during 1960;**

(b) the extent to which the demand was met;

(c) the arrangements made by Government to provide more iron sheets to Delhi in view of various development schemes; and

(d) if no arrangements have been made, the reasons therefor?

The Minister of Steel, Mines and Fuel (Sardar Swaran Singh): (a) and (b). The demand of sheets based on requests for allocation received from sponsoring authorities and the actual allocation are as follows:—

	Demand	*Allo*
1959–60 1960–61	24,260 tons	12,764 tons
(April–Sept. 1960)	13,365 ,,	5,437 ,,

(c) and (d). Equitable distribution is being made of the available material to meet the demands of the States as far as possible.

Engineering Colleges

400. Shri D. C. Sharma:
Shrimati Renu Chakravartty:
Shri S. C. Godsora:

Will the Minister of **Scientific Research and Cultural Affairs** be pleased to refer to the reply given to Starred Question No. 351 on the 24th February, 1960 and state the up-to-date progress in implementing the scheme for the establishment of the eight Centrally sponsored engineering colleges in the country?

The Minister of Scientific Research and Cultural Affairs (Shri Humayun Kabir): (i) Necessary arrangements have been made for the admission of students, appointment of staff and acquisition of equipment for the colleges at Durgapur, Jamshedpur, Bhopal, Nagpur, Mangalore & Srinagar which will start functioning during the current year.

(ii) The Boards of Governors have been fully constituted for all the colleges.

(iii) Steps have been taken for the acquisition of about 175 acres of land for the Allahabad College. The appointment of the Principal is under the consideration of the State Government.

Aid for Sanskrit Colleges in Kerala

401. **Shri A. K. Gopalan:**
Shri Kunhan:

Will the Minister of **Education** be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received requests from Sanskrit Colleges in Kerala for aid;

(b) if so, which are the institutions which have applied for aid; and

(c) whether Government of India have taken any decision regarding giving aid to these institutions?

The Minister of Education (Dr. K. L. Shrimali): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c). Do not arise.

Investigation of Crimes

402. **Shri Rami Reddy:**
Shri Naval Prabhakar:

Will the Minister of **Home Affairs** be pleased to state:

(a) whether any steps have been taken for improving scientific methods of investigation of crimes;

(b) whether any Universities have opened courses in criminology;

(c) if so, what are the Universities and what are the courses; and

(d) what is the assistance given by the Centre either to the State Governments or the Universities in this regard?

The Minister of Home Affairs (Shri G. B. Pant): (a) The following steps have been taken by the Government of India for improving scientific methods of investigation of crimes:—

(i) The Central Forensic Institutes consisting of the Central Detective Training School, the Central Finger Print Bureau and the Central Forensic Science Laboratory have been established at Calcutta.

(ii) An Advanced Course for IPS officers with 4 to 7 years service, has been started at the Central Police Training College, Abu.

(iii) An Advisory Committee in Forensic Science has been set up to consider matters relating to the sphere of forensic (excluding forensic medicine).

(iv) Conferences of senior Police Officers from all States are held periodically to consider, among other things, various measures for the improvement of methods of detection of crime on scientific lines.

(b) and (c). The Saugor University has started teaching of Criminology and Forensic Science for the degree classes both in the Arts and Science Faculties. The subject of Criminology forms part of the Master's degree in Social Work in the Agra and Lucknow Universities, and of the Master's degree in Law in the Delhi University.

(d) No financial assistance has been given either to the State Governments or the Universities specially for this purpose. However, training facilities exist for State Police Officers in the Central Forensic Institutes, Calcutta. The Central Forensic Science Laboratory undertakes examination of criminological exhibits from Union Territories and from the States of Assam, Bihar and Orissa. Work from other States will be accepted as he activities of the Laboratory expand.

Eviction of Labourers at Agartala

403. **Shri Bangshi Thakur:** Will the Minister of **Home Affairs** be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware that a few families of Hindustani

labourers, residing at Banamalipur, Agartala have been forcefully evicted;

(b) whether such eviction is justified; and

(c) whether adequate compensation has been paid to those whose huts have been demolished?

The Minister of Home Affairs (Shri G. B. Pant): (a) and (b). Eleven families of Hindustani, speaking labourers, who were in unauthorised occupation of Government khas land in Banamalipur for several years, were served with notices of eviction in accordance with the Public Premises (Eviction of Unauthorised Occupants) Act, 1958, as the land in question was required for the extension of the power house at Agartala. Six out of these eleven families were evicted after having been given sufficient time to move to an alternative piece of land near the town offered to them free of nazar.

(c) As the land in question was Government owned land and the labourers were in unauthorised occupation, the question of compensation did not arise.

Private Schools in Delhi

404. **Shri A. K. Gopalan:**
Shri Kunhan:

Will the Minister of **Education** be pleased to refer to the reply given to Starred Question No. 1498 on the 14th April, 1960 and state the names of 21 schools in Delhi which were penalised for levy of unauthorised payments?

The Minister of Education (Dr. K. L. Shrimali): A statement showing the names of the schools in Delhi which were penalised for levy of unauthorised payments is placed on the Table of Lok Sabha. [*See* Appendix I, annexure No. 61].

Cases under the Delhi rent Control Act

405. Shrimati Sucheta Kripalani: Will the Minister of **Home Affairs** be pleased to state the total number of cases filed with the Rent Controller upto the 30th April, 1960 under the Delhi Rent Control Act of 1959, since its enforcement, and out of which, the number of cases—

(i) filed each by the landlords and the tenants;

(ii) filed by the landlords in which tenants' evictions are sought;

(iii) in which tenants' evictions are sought on the ground of "personal requirement of the landlord";

(iv) filed by the tenants for fixation of standard rent;

(v) in which tenants' evictions are sought in respect of the newly transferred premises?

The Minister of Home Affairs (Shri G. B. Pant): Total number of cases 5,332.

(i) 4,058 (by landlords) 1,274 (by tenants).
(ii) 3,744.
(iii) 623.
(iv) 866.
(v) 153.

अफसर प्रशिक्षण यूनिट, चकरौता

४०६. **श्री भक्त दर्शन :** क्या प्रतिरक्षा मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या यह सच है कि चकरौता (उत्तर प्रदेश) में हाल में एक अफसर प्रशिक्षण यूनिट खोला गया है; और

(ख) यदि हां, तो इस प्रशिक्षण यूनिट की विशेषतायें क्या हैं ?

प्रतिरक्षा मंत्री (श्री कृष्ण मेनन) : (क) चकरौता में अफसर प्रशिक्षण यूनिट नाम की कोई यूनिट नहीं खोली गई । राष्ट्रीय छात्र सेना दल की अफसर प्रशिक्षण यूनिटों का वार्षिक प्रशिक्षण शिविर, चकरौता में १६ मई से २९

जून १९६० को लगाया गया था । इस शिविर में सारे भारत की अफसर प्रशिक्षण यूनिटों के ९१ छात्रों ने भाग लिया था ।

(ख) छात्रों को नेतृत्व करने का प्रशिक्षण देने के साधारण उद्देश्यों के अतिरिक्त, राष्ट्रीय छात्र सेना दल की अफसर प्रशिक्षण यूनिट का विशिष्ट उद्देश्य है, इस में भर्ती होने वाले छात्रों को सशस्त्र सेनाओं के लिए अधिक योग्य बनाना । इण्डीयन मिलिटरी अकाडमी देहरादून में राष्ट्रीय छात्र सेना दल की विशिष्ट प्रविष्टि के लिए सुरक्षित आसामियों की संख्या बढ़ा कर १५ प्रतिशत कर दी गई है, और समय पा कर यह प्रविशिष्ट केवल अफसर प्रशिक्षण यूनिट के छात्रों के लिए ही खुली रखी जायेगी ।

अफसर प्रशिक्षण यूनिटों के लिए वालंटियरों का चुनाव सब से पहले बोर्ड आव आफिसर्ज द्वारा किया जाता है, और इस प्रकार चुने हुए वालंटियरों को निर्धारित डाक्टरी मुआइने द्वारा छांटा जाता है । यदि वह योग्य पाए जाएं तो उन्हें सर्विसिज सिलेक्शन बोर्ड के आगे, जाना होता है, जिस द्वारा यदि वह स्वीकार्य श्रेणी में आ पायें, तो उन्हें अफसर प्रशिक्षण यूनिटों के लिये रख लिया जाता है । अफसर प्रशिक्षण यूनिटों के छात्रों को, राष्ट्रीय छात्र सेना दल की उच्च श्रेणी के छात्रों को दिए जाने वाले प्रशिक्षण की तुलना में उच्चतर और विस्तृत प्रशिक्षण दिया जाता है । अफसर प्रशिक्षण यूनिटों के वार्षिक शिविर ६ सप्ताह की अवधि के होते हैं और तीसरे वर्ष इन छात्रों को एक परीक्षा पास करनी होती है जो सर्टिफिकेट 'डी' कहलाती है । इस सर्टिफिकेट और शिक्षा में डिग्री पा जाने पर ही छात्र इण्डीयन मिलीटरी अकाडमी की राष्ट्रीय छात्र सेना दल की विशिष्ट प्रविष्टि का अधिकारी हो सकता है ।

Commissions of Inquiry

407. Shri Kalika Singh: Will the Minister of **Home Affairs** be pleased to state:

(a) the designations of different Commissions of Inquiry appointed by the Central Government under the Commission of Inquiry Act 1952 (60 of 1952) since the passing of the Act;

(b) the stages at which the different Commissions aforesaid have reached in their inquiries;

(c) the amount of work done by Commissions and the number of witnesses examined by them; and

(d) the findings, if any, given by Commissions?

The Minister of Home Affairs (Shri G. B. Pant): (a) to (d). Except for the Ministry of Defence from whom the information is still awaited, a statement giving the information is laid on the Table of the House. [*See* Appendix I, annexure No. 62].

Statue of Tagore

408. Shri Madhusudan Rao: Will the Minister of **Scientific Research and Cultural Affairs** be pleased to state the estimated cost of the statue of Tagore which is being sculptured for the Tagore Centenary to be held in May 1961?

The Minister of Scientific Research and Cultural Affairs (Shri Humayun Kabir): The question of the estimated cost of the statue does not arise as no artist has been commissioned to execute such a statue.

Overstaying by Foreigners in India

409. Shri Madhusudan Rao: Will the Minister of **Home Affairs** be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred

Question No. 2092 on the 14th April, 1960 and state:

(a) whether the required information in regard to foreigners overstaying in India has since been collected; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

The Minister of Home Affairs (Shri G. B. Pant): (a) Yes except for certain districts in the States of Gujarat and Maharashtra.

(b) A statement giving the available information is laid on the Table. [*See* Appendix I, annexure No. 63].

Qutab Minar, Delhi

410 { **Shri Madhusudan Rao:** / **Shri P. C. Borooah:**

Will the Minister of **Scientific Research and Cultural Affairs** be pleased to state:

(a) the total expenditure to be incurred in the floodlighting of the exterior of the Qutab Minar in Delhi;

(b) when the work in this regard will be completed; and

(c) the total expenditure on the electrification of the interior of the monument already done?

The Deputy Minister of Scientific Research and Cultural Affairs (Dr. M. M. Das): (a) Rs. 80,000.

(b) Approximately by July, 1961.

(c) Rs. 11,000.

Museum at Ratnagiri (Orissa)

411. **Shri B. C. Mullick:** Will the Minister of **Scientific Research and Cultural Affairs** be pleased to state:

(a) whether any money has been sanctioned so far for the construction of a museum at Ratnagiri in the district of Cuttack, Orissa; and

(b) if so, what is the amount?

The Deputy Minister of Scientific Research and Cultural Affairs (Dr. M. M. Das): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Iron ore

412. **Shri C. K. Bhattacharya:** Will the Minister of **Steel, Mines and Fuel** be pleased to state:

(a) the total iron ore output in 1958 and 1959;

(b) the output in different States in 1959;

(c) the total despatches of iron ore to different Steel Plants in 1959; and

(d) the total quantity of iron ore exported in 1959?

The Minister of Mines and Oil (Shri K D. Malaviya): (a) The output of iron ore during 1958 and 1959 was 6,130,000 and 7,934,879 tonnes respectively.

(b) Statewise production of iron ore during 1959 was as follows:

States	Quantity (in tonnes)
1. Andhra Pradesh	221,228
2. Bihar	3,234,200
3. Bombay	310,140
4. Madhya Pradesh	413,641
5. Mysore	1,026,450
6. Orissa	2,615,018
7. Punjab	20,367
8. Rajasthan	93,835
TOTAL	7,934,879

(c) 5,661,000 tonnes.

(d) 2,765,500 tonnes.

Death of Income-tax Officer in Calcutta

413. **Shri C. K. Bhattacharya:** Will the Minister of **Finance** be pleased to State:

(a) Whether his attention had been drawn to the death of an Income-tax Officer, Shri Mukti Sen, in Calcutta under suspicious circumstances;

(b) whether any investigation has been made in the causes of his death; and

(c) if so, what are the results?

The Minister of Finance (Shri Morarji Desai): (a) Yes Sir.

(b) and (c). The Calcutta Police are investigating the case and the results are awaited.

Teaching of Tribal Children

414. { **Shri R. C. Majhi:** / **Shri Subodh Hansda:**

Will the Minister of **Education** be pleased to state the names of States where no step has yet been taken to each the tribal children in their mother tongue?

The Minister of Education (Dr. K. L. Shrimali): Information is being collected.

Playgrounds in Schools and Colleges in Punjab

415. **Shri Daljit Singh:** Will the Minister of **Education** be pleased to state:

(a) whether any amount has been sanctioned by the Central Government to Punjab State for providing playgrounds in schools and colleges during 1959-60 and 1960-61 so far; and

(b) if so, the names of schools and colleges benefited by it?

The Minister of Education (Dr. K. L. Shrimali): (a) During 1959-60 a sum of Rs. 80,500 was placed at the disposal of the Government of Punjab for giving grants to the educational institutions of the standard of high schools and above for the acquisition of playfields. It is proposed to sanction a sum of Rs. 1,52,950 for utilisation during 1960-61.

(b) A statement showing names of the educational institutions which received grant during 1959-60 is laid on the Table of the House. [*See* Appendix I, annexure No. 64].

Labour and Social Service Camps in Punjab

416. **Shri Daljit Singh:** Will the Minister of **Education** be pleased to state:

(a) the number of labour and social service camps conducted by various social organisations in Punjab State with Central Government grant during 1959-60 and 1960-61 so far;

(b) the achievements during these periods; and

(c) the aid given by the Central Government to conduct these camps and the places where the camps were conducted?

The Minister of Education (Dr. K. L. Shrimali): (a) 1959-60—1960-61 (upto 30th June, 1960)—74 camps; 6 camps.

(b) Apart from giving an opportunity to students and young people to get into touch with village communities and imbibe a sense of the dignity of manual labour, the camps enabled them to offer 'Shramdan'. A number of small works were executed by the campers, *e.g.*, repair and construction of approach and link roads; filling in of pits; digging foundation of local Public School; levelling of school playgrounds; repair and deepening of village tanks; digging of compost pits and pits for planting of trees. The girl campers performed environmental service i.e. home sanitation; child care; disinfection of wells; cleaning of village lanes; construction of smokeless *chulas* and kitchen gardens.

(c) **Aid Given by the Central Government*

1959-60	1960-61 (upto 30th June 1960)
Rs. 73,055.36	Rs. 8,741.50

A statement showing the places where the camps were conducted is laid on the Table. [*See* Appendix I, annexure No. 65].

Note: *The figures given are liable to revision on settlement of audited accounts.

Visas Issued to Foreigners

417. Shri Daljit Singh: Will the Minister of **Home Affairs** be pleased to state:

(a) the number of foreigners to whom visas to visit India were issued during the second quarter of the year 1960; and

(b) the names of the countries to which they belong?

The Minister of Home Affairs (Shri G. B. Pant): (a) and (b). A statement giving the information received so far, is laid on the Table of the Lok Sabha. [*See* Appendix I, annexure No. 66].

Propagation of Sanskrit in Punjab

418. Shri Daljit Singh: Will the Minister of **Education** be pleased to state:

(a) whether any grants have been given by the Centre to the Punjab State during the last ten years for the propagation of Sanskrit; and

(b) if so, the amount thereof (year-wise)?

The Minister of Education (Dr. K. L. Shrimali): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) A total amount of Rs. 3,25,345 has been paid so far to the Vishveshvaranand Vedic Research Institute, Hoshiarpur, since 1950 for Vedic Word Concordance, Vedic Dictionary and other publications. The detailed breakup (yearwise) is as follows:—

Year	*Amount*
	Rs.
1950-51	5,500
1951-52	10,000
1952-53	10,000
1953-54	25,000
1954-55	25,000
1955-56	25,000
1956-57	25,000
1957-58	77,760
1958-59	53,760
1959-60	68,325

Welfare of Backward Classes in Punjab

419. Shri Daljit Singh: Will the Minister of **Home Affairs** be pleased to state:

(a) the amount allocated for 1960-61 to Punjab for welfare of Backward Classes; and

(b) the details of such welfare schemes undertaken during 1960-61 so far?

The Deputy Minister of Home Affairs (Shrimati Alva): (a) The following amounts have been allocated for 1960-61 for Welfare of Backward Classes in Punjab:—

	(*Rs. in lakhs*)
(i) Central Sector	48.89
(ii) State Sector	52.27
Total:—	101.16

(b) A statement showing the details of the approved schemes is land on the Table. [*See* Appendix I, annexure No. 67].

Import of Steel

420. Pandit D. N. Tiwari: Will the Minister of **Steel, Mines and Fuel** be pleased to state:

(a) whether imports of steel have considerably gone up in 1960; and

(b) the quantity imported from January to June 1960?

The Minister of Steel, Mines and Fuel (Sardar Swaran Singh): (a) No, Sir.

(b) 4,43,000 tons approximately.

सांस्कृतिक संगठनों को अनुदान

४२१. **श्री सरजू पाण्डेय :** क्या वैज्ञानिक अनुसंधान और सांस्कृतिक-कार्य मंत्री १६ फरवरी, १९६० के अतारांकित प्रश्न संख्या १६८ के उत्तर के सम्बन्ध में यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) १९५९-६० में सांस्कृतिक संगठनों को अनुदान देने के बारे में १७ फरवरी १९६० को हुई संगीत

नाटक अकादमी की अनुदान समिति की बैठक में क्या निर्णय किया गया और

(ख) क्या समिति के कार्यवाही सारांश की एक प्रति टेबल पर रखी जायेगी ?

वैज्ञानिक अनुसंधान और सांस्कृतिक कार्य मंत्री (श्री हुमायून् कबिर) : (क) और (ख) एक विवरण सभा पटल पर रखा जाता है । [देखिये परिशिष्ट १, अनुबंध संख्या ६८]

उत्तर प्रदेश की शिक्षा संस्थाओं को अनुदान

४२२. श्री सरजू पाण्डेय : क्या शिक्षा मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) उत्तर प्रदेश की कितनी शिक्षा संस्थाओं ने १९५९-६० में अब तक अनावर्तक अनुदान के लिये आवेदन किया है ; और

(ख) इन में से प्रत्येक संस्था को कितना अनुदान मंजूर किया गया ?

शिक्षा मंत्री (डा० का० ला० श्रीमाली) : (क) १८० ।

(ख) विवरण सभा पटल पर रख दिया गया है । [देखिये परिशिष्ट १, अनुबन्ध संख्या ६९]

Export of Billets

423. Shri Subiman Ghose: Will the Minister of **Steel, Mines and Fuel** be pleased to state:

(a) whether steel billets from Bhilai, Durgapur and Rourkela have been exported to foreign countries;

(b) if so, the quantity of billets exported from each of these three places; and

(c) the foreign exchange earned by these places separately?

The Minister of Mines and Fuel (Sardar Swaran Singh): (a) to (c). 588 long tons of Billetes have been exported so far from Bhilai only and foreign exchange to the tune of Rs. 2,59,000 earned thereby. Contracts have also been signed by Hindustan Steel Limited for export of 33,500 tons of billets from Bhilai and Durgapur. Rourkela does not produce billets.

Text Books for Delhi Schools

424. Shri Ram Garib: Will the Minister of **Education** be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that prices of text books for Delhi Schools approved in the year 1954 were revised by Government in the year 1957-58 because of the rise in the cost of paper;

(b) whether it is a fact that Government have reduced the price of paper on the recommendations of the Tariff Commission from the 1st January, 1960;

(c) if so, whether Government have reduced the prices of text books for schools in Delhi for the current academic year; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

The Minister of Education (Dr. K. L. Shrimali): (a). Yes, Sir.

(b). Yes, Sir.

(c). The prices of the new text books prescribed from the current academic year have been fixed on the basis of current prices of paper. In respect of books printed prior to 1st January, 1960 no revision has been effected.

(d) Does not arise.

Indian Students under Colombo Plan

425. Shri Ram Garib: Will the Minister of **Scientific Research and Cultural Affairs** be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Colombo Plan countries offer opportunities for higher and technical studies for Indian students;

(b) if so, what are the subjects in which the opportunities have been accorded in the year 1959 country-wise; and

(c) how many candidates applied, how many were selected and how many actually went abroad?

The Minister of Scientific Research and Cultural Affairs (Shri Humayun Kabir): (a) to (c). Under the Colombo Plan, only such technical people as are sponsored by the Central Ministries, State Governments, Universities and other organisations like the Chambers of Commerce etc. in connection with projects included in the Five-Year Plans are recommended for higher studies and training.

Since the programme relates to provision of facilities for sponsored candidates, no specific offer is usually received for students as such. No separate information is, therefore, available regarding students or subject fields.

New Caves Near Aurangabad

426. **Shri P. C. Borooah:**
Shri Raghunath Singh:
Shri H. N. Mukerjee:
Shri Hem Barua:
Shri Achar:

Will the Minister of **Scientific Research and Cultural Affairs** be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a new set of caves of great architectural and sculptural beauty were discovered near Aurangabad in Bombay; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

The Deputy Minister of Scientific Research and Cultural Affairs (Dr. M. M. Das): (a). No, Sir.

(b). Does not arise.

Aid to Orissa State

427. **Shri B. C. Mullick:** Will the Minister of **Home Affairs** be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 2781-H on the 27th April, 1960, regarding grant of financial aid for establishment of 30 Ashram Schools and introduction of 13 mobile Industrial Units in the Scheduled Areas of Orissa and state:

(a) whether the State Government of Orissa have already furnished the progress report for the year 1958-59 and upto-date scheme-wise allocations; and

(b) if so, the action taken in regard to the grant of financial assistance as requested by the State Government to implement the scheme in the year 1960-61?

The Deputy Minister of Home Affairs (Shrimati Alva): (a). They have since furnished the Report and figures of allocations.

(b). On these additional schemes, the question of grant of assistance to the extent feasible is under active consideration.

Money Lenders

428. **Shri Muhammed Elias:** Will the Minister of **Home Affairs** be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 2768 on the 27th April, 1960 and state the progress made in undertaking legislation for the Union Administration of Tripura to prevent money lenders from charging exorbitant rates of interest?

The Deputy Minister of Home Affairs (Shrimati Alva): The Bombay Money-Lenders Act, 1946 has been extended to the Union Territory of Tripura.

Museum at Kamalapur (Mysore)

429. **Shri Agadi:**
Shri Wodeyar:

Will the Minister of **Scientific Research and Cultural Affairs** be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 2008 on 22nd December, 1959 and state the progress achieved in constructing the Museum

at Kamalapur village in Bellary District, Mysore State to preserve the antiquities of Hampi of Vijayanagaram Empire period?

The Deputy Minister of Scientific Research and Cultural Affairs (Dr. M. M. Das): The land for the museum building has been taken over by the Union Department of Archaeology. The plan of the building is being prepared by the Central Public Works Department; and the work will start only after the plan and other formalities have been finalised.

Survey of Temples

430. { **Shri Agadi:** / **Shri Sugandhi:**

Will the Minister of **Scientific Research and Cultural Affairs** be pleased to state:

(a) whether any survey has been undertaken in Mysore, Andhra Pradesh, Uttar Pradesh, Madras and Kerala regarding ancient temples and places of Archaeological and Historical importance since 1950 upto-date; and

(b) if so, the details of the results thereof, State-wise?

The Deputy Minister of Scientific Research and Cultural Affairs (Dr. M. M. Das): (a). Yes, Sir.

(b). The broad results of the survey State-wise are given below:

Mysore State:

The survey in Mysore State has brought to light a number of ancient temples and sites of Archaeological and Historical importance and a detailed study thereof is in hand.

Andhra Praesh:

Information has already been given in reply to Unstarred Question No. 152 dated 3rd August, 1960.

Madras State:

The survey in Madurai and Coimbatore Districts have brought to light a number of ancient temples and archaeological and historical sites. Further study is in progress.

Kerala State:

The survey of northern part of the State has brought to light many temples and sites of archaeological and historical importance. The survey work is still in progress.

Uttar Pradesh:

The survey in Etah, Aligarh, Unnao, Kanpur, Agra, Mathura, Lucknow, Jhansi, Gonda, Bahraich, Fatehpuri Bijnor and Mainpuri Districts of Uttar Pradesh State has brought to light ancient sites, mounds noted for Painted Grey Ware, fine grey Ware, N.B.P. Ware, ancient materials Punch marked coins, ancient terracotta, Sunga Terracotta, Buddhist remains, Mounds with P. G. Ware, Black and Kasganj polished ware, black polished ware, Northern Black polished Ware, Polished stone axe and some important Sunga and Kusan sculptures. Few temples of early medieval period have also been noticed in Etah and Kanpur Districts. In so far as District Bulandshahar is concerned the survey has brought to light temples, tombs, mosques, pottery, shrine, pillars, wells, hazara, images, Terracotta, stone objects, Mud Fort, wall, old buildings and sculptures.

Steel for Kerala

431. { **Shri Warior:** / **Shri Vasudevan Nair:**

Will the Minister of **Steel, Mines and Fuel** be pleased to state:

(a) the total quota of steel allotted to Kerala State during 1958 and 1959; and

(b) how much was actually supplied during each of those years?

The Minister of Steel, Mines and Fuel (Sardar Swaran Singh): (a) and

(b). Allotment of steel is made financial year-wise. Information for the past three years is given below:

	(in tons) Allotment	(in tons) Despatches(*)
1957-58	9,399	9,335
1958-59	19,290	8,267
1959-60	47,671	12,353

(*) Including despatches against Central quotas.

सचिवालय प्रशिक्षण स्कूल, नई दिल्ली

४३२. **श्री भक्त दर्शन** : क्या गृह-कार्य मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या यह सच है कि सचिवालय प्रशिक्षण स्कूल, नई दिल्ली ने सरकारी कर्मचारियों को हिन्दी टाइप और शार्टहैंड की शिक्षा देने की व्यवस्था की है ;

(ख) यदि हां, तो अब तक कितने सरकारी कर्मचारियों ने हिन्दी टाइप तथा शार्टहैंड की शिक्षा प्राप्त की है और कितने इस समय इस योजना के अन्तर्गत प्रशिक्षण प्राप्त कर रहे हैं ; और

(ग) इस योजना को और बढ़ाने के लिए क्या कदम उठाये जा रहे हैं ?

गृह-कार्य मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री दातार) : (क) जी हां ।

(ख) अब तक २०६ ने हिन्दी टाइप की शिक्षा प्राप्त की है । इस समय क्रमशः ४२५ टाइपिस्ट और १०६ आशुलिपिक (स्टेनोग्राफर) हिन्दी टाइप और हिन्दी आशुलिपि में प्रशिक्षण प्राप्त कर रहे हैं ।

(ग) बम्बई, कलकत्ता और मद्रास में नये केन्द्र खोले गए हैं ।

Indian National Commission for Co-operation with UNESCO

433. Shri Hem Barua: Will the Minister of **Education** be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the constitution of the Indian National Commission for co-operation with UNESCO has recently been changed;

(b) if so, what are the changes made therein; and

(c) the reasons therefor?

The Minister of Education (Dr. K. L. Shrimali): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Does not arise.

Excise Cases Pending in Courts

434. Shri Vasudevan Nair: Will the Minister of **Finance** be pleased to state:

(a) the number of cases arising out of goods smuggled from foreign countries and other excise cases, pending before the courts;

(b) whether any foreigners are also involved in these cases; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

The Minister of Finance (Shri Morarji Desai): (a) 501 cases.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) 80 foreigners are involved in these cases and the details are as under:

Pakistani	24
Arabs	12
British	6
Lebanese	7
Goans	5
Chinese	3
Iranian	1
Syrian	1
Thai	1
Greek	1

French	1
Belgian	8
American	3
Bahrein	1
Spanish	4
Argentine	2

Report of Law Commission

435. Shri Tangamani: Will the Minister of **Law** be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Law Commission under the Chairmanship of Shri T. L. Venkataraman has submitted any report so far; and

(b) if so, the number and names of the Reports and the steps taken in that regard?

The Deputy Minister of Law (Shri Hajarnavis): (a). No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Ground Water Survey in Madras

436. Shri Narasimhan: Will the Minister of **Steel, Mines and Fuel** be pleased to state:

(a) whether any detailed survey fo ground water resources in Madras State has been conducted; and

(b) whether a statement showing the broad features of the same will be laid on the Table?

The Minister of Mines and Oil (Shri K. D. Malaviya): (a) and (b). The information is being collected and will be laid on the Tabe of the House when received.

12 hrs.

RE: ALLEGED BREACH OF PRIVILEGE

Shri B. C. Kamble (Kopargaon): May I say a few words with regard to the notice of breach of privilege which I have given? You have been pleased to convey through an officer of the Lok Sabha Secretariat that you are not willing to give your consent. Even then, my submission is that you may kindly avail of the proviso to rule 225 and make a reference in the House and see what Government have to say with regard to the breach of privilege. This breach of privilege arises....

Mr. Speaker: I am not going to allow this.

Shri B. C. Kamble: This arises out of article 335.

Mr. Speaker: I shall tell the House about this. I only wanted him to utilise the provisions of rule 225.

Shri B. C. Kamble has given me a notice of a privilege motion, but I said that I did not give my consent to this privilege motion; there is a provision in rule 225, stating that if I like, whenever I refuse to give my consent, I can read it out to the House; but even that depends upon my desire and my will as to whether I should find it a proper one to be brought up before the House or not; merely because an hon. Member wishes me to do so, I am not bound to do it. Anyhow, the hon. Member who has given notice of that motion wants me to read it out. I shall yield to his request.

His motion is this, that there is, according to him, a breach of privilege, arising

> "....out of a fact of non-observance of article 335 of the Constitution of India by the Ministry of Defence and the establishment of the Supreme Court in the matter of recruitment of the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes. There is no reservation made for the members of the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes in the Armed Forces, even though the Constitution has commenced for since nearly 10 years.".

Under article 335 of the Constitution, he claims that there must be reservation in the Armed Forces etc. for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes. The article reads only thus:

> "The claims of the members of the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes shall be taken into consideration, consistently with the maintenance of efficiency of administration, in the making of appointments to services and posts in connection with the affairs of the Union or of a State.".

So, there is no obligation. Even assuming that it is so, there are other opportunities for raising it. I have already admitted a discussion on the Report of the Commissioner for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes, and it is coming up soon.

It is not a matter of privilege at all, and I am really surprised to find that the hon. Member should raise it now, even though I had sent word to him that I did not think it was a case of privilege at all.

After all, nobody prevents him from raising this matter at the proper time. Government will certainly give consideration to all these matters, and they will naturally explain why they have not done so. Irrespective of the fact that there is absolutely no provision in the Constitution compelling them to do so, they have been doing so in various other cases. If they have not followed it in this particular respect, they must have their own reasons, and they will give out those reasons. This is not a matter of any privilege. All the same, inasmuch as the hon. Member wanted

me to read it out to the House, I did so. I refuse to give my consent to it.

Shri B. C. Kamble: I shall be satisfied if Government give some indication with regard to this specific matter.

Mr. Speaker: Hon. Members cannot have their satisfaction as they like. I have refused to give my consent. The hon. Member merely asked me to read it out here. I have given him that much of indulgence already. He cannot expect anything more now.

So far as Shri Vajpayee is concerned, he has just tabled a motion of privilege. I do not read it out just now. I shall take time. Hon. Members must remember that they must give me some time to consider what they have given notice of; they cannot suddenly bring it up here and expect me to read it out to the House; it may be a question of privilige, or it may not be a question of privilege; after all, it may create some disturbance, and there might be no question of privilege involved. I must first be satisfied that *prima facie* there is a case of breach of privilege. I shall consult and then bring it up before the House, if necessary.

Shri B. C. Kamble: May I take it that my motion is held over?

Mr. Speaker: I have refused my consent, once, twice and thrice. I am not going to hold it over.

Shri B. C. Kamble: I had given notice on Friday last.

Mr. Speaker: Now, Papers to be Laid on the Table.

12.06 hrs.

PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE

Appropriation Accounts of Defence Services

The Minister of Finance (Shri Morarji Desai): I beg to lay on the Table, a copy of the Appropriation Accounts of the Defence Services for the year 1958-59 and Commercial Appendix thereto. [*Placed in Library. See* No. LT-2249/60].

Report of Commissioner for Linguistic Minorities

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Home Affairs (Shri Datar): I beg to lay on the Table a copy of the Report of the Commissioner for Linguistic Minorities for the period 1st August, 1958 to 31st July, 1959, under article 350B of the Constitution. [*Placed in Library. See No.* LT-2250/60].

Notification under All India Services Act

Shri Datar: I beg to lay on the Table a copy of Notification No. GSR. 841 dated the 30th July, 1960 making certain amendment to Schedule III to the Indian Police Service (Pay) Rules, 1954, under sub-section (2) of section 3 of the All India Services Act, 1951. [*Placed in Library. See* No. LT-2251/60].

Amendment to Reserve and Auxiliary Air Forces Act Rules

The Deputy Minister of Defence (Shri Raghuramaiah): On behalf of Sardar Majithia, I beg to lay on the Table a copy of Notification No. SRO. 5-E dated the 9th July, 1960 making certain further amendment to the Reserve and Auxiliary Air Forces Act Rules, 1953, under sub-section (4) of section 34 of the Reserve and Auxiliary Air Forces Act, 1952. [*Placed in Library. See* No. LT-2252/60].

12.07 hrs.

PUBLIC ACCOUNTS COMMITTEE

THIRTIETH REPORT

Shri Barman (Cooch-Behar—Reserved—Sch. Castes): I beg to present the Thirtieth Report of the Public Accounts Committee on the Audit Report on the Accounts of the Damodar Valley Corporation for the year 1957-58.

12:07½ hrs.

DELHI PRIMARY EDUCATION BILL

REPORT OF JOINT COMMITTEE

Shrimati Renuka Ray (Malda): I beg to lay on the Table a copy of the Report of the Joint Committee on the Bill to provide for free and compulsory primary education for children in the Union Territory of Delhi, pending in Rajya Sabha.

12.07¾ hrs.

CALLING ATTENTION TO A MATTER OF URGENT PUBLIC IMPORTANCE

CIRCULATION OF COUNTERFEIT CURRENCY

Shri Narasimhan (Krishnagiri): Under rule 197, I beg to call the attention of the Minister of Finance to the following matter of urgent public importance and I request that he may make a statement thereon:—

> "The circulation of counterfeit currency notes in South India and the steps taken in the matter.".

The Minister of Finance Shri Morarji Desai): May I submit that the statement runs to about three foolscap pages? Shall I lay it on the Table of the House?

Mr. Speaker: Yes, he may lay it on the Table of the House.

Shri Morarji Desai: I lay the statement on the Table of the House. [Appendix I, annexure No. 70].

Shri Tangamani (Madurai): There are press reports to the effect that the police have seized currency notes worth several lakhs of rupees from several sources. There is also a report that counterfeit currency notes have also been received by the police. The newspaper reports alone say that Rs. 10 lakhs worth of currency notes have been received....

Mr. Speaker: The hon. Member cannot make a speech now. What is it that he wants.

Shri T. B. Vittal Rao (Khammam): Let the statement be read and then we may ask one or two clarifications.

Mr. Speaker: Hon. Members will look into the statement first.

Shri Tangamani: More particularly, in Madras, what has happened is this.....

Mr. Speaker: Order, order. I am not able to follow what the hon. Member wants.

Shri Tangamani: I want the statement to be read here, because it is an important statement.

Shri T. B. Vittal Rao: Then, we may seek some clarification.

Shri Balakrishnan (Dindigul—Reserved—Sch. Castes): Many innocent poor people, especially the villagers sold their agricultural products and received in exchange counterfeit currency not knowing that it was counterfeit. So, will Government help such persons by allowing them to exchange their currency notes in the State Bank if their cases are genuine namely that they have received these currency notes in exchange for the commodities that they sold?

Mr. Speaker: I thought that hon. Members were anxious to start the discussion on the employees' strike and so on. If hon. Members want, I

am prepared to allow an hour for the reading of this statement. The hon. Minister has laid the statement on the Table of the House. I do not know why when the statement is there, this kind of impatience should be shown; I cannot understand it at all. Hon. Members forget what they represented earlier.

12.09½ hrs.

RESIGNATION OF A MEMBER

Mr. Speaker: I have to inform the the House that Dr. Gopalrao Khedkar has resigned his seat in Lok Sabha with effect from the 5th August, 1960.

12.10 hrs.

STATUTORY RESOLUTION RE: ESSENTIAL SERVICES MAINTENANCE ORDINANCE AND MOTION RE: STRIKE OF SOME CENTRAL GOVERNMENT EMPLOYEES

Shri Naushir Bharucha (East Khandesh): Mr. Speaker, I beg to move the following Resolution:

> "This House disapproves of the Essential Services Maintenance Ordinance, 1960 (Ordinance No. 1 of 1960) promulgated by the President on the 8th July, 1960".

Sir, in inviting this House to disapprove of the Ordinance—Ordinance No. 1 of 1960—I am not asking the House to hold a *post-mortem* examination on the strike situation, but in fact I am requesting the House to consider the grave questions of our policy towards a healthy development of trade unionism in this country, the question of the efficient working of the Government machinery and indeed also the question of the success or failure of our Third Five Year Plan.

The Government's momentary victory over labour must not lead them to the conclusion that the matter will end there, but it behoves the Government to look carefully into the genuine grievances of the employees, and even at this belated hour to listen to the request repeatedly made by the leaders of labour, namely, to sit round a table and hammer out the differences between the two parties.

For a moment, I shall recollect very briefly the background which led to the strike. The Pay Commission's recommendations generated great dissatisfaction among the employees, and added to that, there was Government's delay in arriving at decisions on these. It is a matter of deep regret that the recommendations of the Pay Commission, and particularly the recommendations in respect of the most important items, were based on wrong data supplied to the Commission. I do not know who was responsible for that. Matters such as data to the effect that a worker can ordinarily procure two major meals for 56 nP per day are certainly bound to lead the Commission to erroneous conclusions. The workers had a right to disagree with the decisions of the Government. But before going into that, I must point one thing out to this House and dispel an erroneous impression that has been created, namely, that the leaders who sponsored the strike were really trying to eke out a political advantage for their party and that this was not an industrial dispute. I maintain with all the emphasis at my command that if at all there could be an industrial dispute, this was one. This was a *bona fide* and genuine dispute. The labour leaders made repeated efforts at negotiations, and I speak from record. My hon. friend, Shri Nath Pai, speaking in this House on the 17th December 1959, on the Report of the Pay Commission, stated as under:

> "I would appeal to the Home Minister, the Finance Minister and the Railway Minister that it is not too late to try to sit with the representatives of the employees.

[Shri Naushir Bharucha]

That is what the Pay Commission has recommended. One of their good suggestions is the Whitley Council suggestion, and a general council for all. I hope the Home Minister is going to accept that. That will be an opportunity to sit down, to discuss and to modify those anomalies, where they are wrong, and to do justice to the Government employees...

"If we take this caution, we may find a way whereby the legitimate grievances of the Government employees can be redressed, and justice even at this late hour can be done to them, and we may have a thing which we badly need, an efficient, loyal and dependable service on which alone depends all our dreams for a better and richer India".

I ask this House, how can it be afterwards said, when repeated approaches by labour leaders were turned down by Government, that they were merely seeking political advantages? Approaches were made to the Prime Minister, the Home Minister, the Railway Minister and the Labour Minister. While the Labour Minister showed some sympathetic approach, it appeared that he was helpless in the face of the unanimous decision of the Cabinet, and ultimately all efforts at negotiation were rejected.

The various labour Unions did not rush into the strike. The National Federation of Posts and Telegraphs, the Defence Employees' Federation, the All-India Railwaymen's Federation and the Confederation of Central Government Employees all passed resolutions requesting the Government to look into the anomalies which undoubtedly were created by the recommendations of the Pay Commission. The Joint Council of Action was formed in April 1960. But before any strike was called, they requested the hon. the Prime Minister to intervene. It was a matter of misfortune for them that the Prime Minister was busy with the Commonwealth Prime Ministers' Conference. But in deference to the preoccupations of the Prime Minister, the Joint Council postponed the strike call. When all efforts failed, there was no other way left open to them, and my hon. friend, Shri Nath Pai, and my friends, Shri S. M. Joshi and Shri Peter Alvares, gave a strike call. If they had not done that, I would have called them shirkers of their duty. It was their plain duty to have done so, or to abandon their posts as leaders of labour.

I have read today that the Prime Minister has expressed a view that strikes are outmoded in essential services and said that in Russia strikes have been banned. I do not know since when the hon. the Prime Minister has become so much enamoured of the labour policy of Russia. To ban strikes without built-in safeguards for arbitration, which would automatically come into operation, would mean reducing the position of the employees to that of bonded slaves.

I shall briefly speak on the demands which were placed by the employees before Government. The incorrect impression created in the country by the Government propaganda machinery that this was a political move should be dispelled. What did the labour leaders ask for? They say, 'We want a need-based minimum wage and, secondly, linking of the dearness allowance to the price index'.

Mr. Speaker: Should we go into all those items mentioned in the Pay Commission's Report?

Shri Naushir Bharucha: No, Sir, not that.

Shri Rajendra Singh (Chapra): That is quite necessary.

Mr. Speaker: The Pay Commission's Report was discussed in the House

and arguments for and against were advanced; hon. Members said that it did not go far enough and so on while the Government had their own answer. Now arising out of their recommendations, the employees were not satisfied and they started a strike. An Ordinance was promulgated. Now that Ordinance has to be revoked. We are not going into the merits—whether it was right or wrong. The hon. Member himself started by asking whether any restriction or ban on strikes ought or ought not to be imposed on essential services. That is the only point here. We are not going into the details of the demands, whether they ought or ought not to be admitted.

Some Hon. Members *rose*—

Shri Nath Pai: What you have raid a ruling...

Shri Rajendra Singh: The Ordinance and matters connected with it have to be discussed.

Shri Nath Pai: What you have said is absolutely appropriate. But may I point one thing? This is with regard to your own ruling. When the Home Minister asked permission to move his own motion, you suggested that the two would be taken jointly. He refers to the strike and my hon. friend refers to the Ordinance, and any speaker will have to combine the two. One cannot be separated from the other.

May I, therefore, submit that all the matters pertinent to and relevant to the strike and the Ordinance be allowed to be raised, because this is the only opportunity of dealing with them?

Shri Vajpayee (Balrampur): May I suggest that the Home Minister be requested to move his motion so that both can be taken up jointly?

Mr. Speaker: Both are taken up jointly.

Shri Vajpayee: But he has not moved his motion.

Shri A. K. Gopalan (Kasergod): It was on this basis, that the two motions would be taken together, that I had also tabled a motion, on both. We were told that everything connected with them could be taken up and discussion allowed on both the motions.

Mr. Speaker: The other day when I was giving the ruling, some hon. Member interrupted me—I think Shri S. M. Banerjee or some other hon. Member; I do not remember exactly. Then I said that so far as the dissatisfaction with respect to the recommendations of the Pay Commission was concerned, it would not form the subject-matter of discussion today.

So far as the hon. Home Minister's motion is concerned, it says:

> "That the situation arising out of the recent strike of some Central Government employees and the action taken by the Government of India in connection therewith be taken into consideration".

There was a strike. The promulgation of the Ordinance was followed up by arrests and so on, treating the strike as illegal.

Therefore, the only point for consideration is whether this Ordinance ought to have been promulgated prohibiting the right to strike or, whether, as the other trade unions have ordinarily got the right to strike these people should also have the right or whether this strike was a legal or an illegal one. If we go into the other things then it will be endless; not only today or tomorrow but the whole of the year will have to be devoted. The demands and the manner in which the Government has met the demands is an independent matter which has been discussed and disposed of by the House. The only question now is whether this action ought to have been taken or whether as the other

[Mr. Speaker]

strikes have been allowed this must have also been allowed to continue and should not have been declared illegal etc. Some said that there was beating resorted to. Certainly, I will allow all that to be discussed. (*Interruptions*).

Shri Prabhat Kar (Hooghly): Sir, I gave notice for a discussion of the statement of the hon. Finance Minister which he laid on the Table regarding the implementation of the recommendations of the Pay Commission. You kindly said that this matter will be discussed on the 8th and 9th and then the statement may be taken up. Naturally, when considering this we have to go into the work of the Pay Commission and its findings. (*Interruptions*).

Shri A. K. Gopalan: When we discuss the strike, the legality or the illegality of it, certainly, we will have to go into the causes that led to it. If we do not go into the causes of the strike, then, we cannot say whether it is legal or illegal. As Shri Bharucha has pointed out, the Industrial Disputes Act is there. So, if you restrict the discussion it will not be possible. When we speak about the strike, we have to speak about what all happend, what were the causes of the strike, whether Government had done everything to see that the strike was averted and all that. We have to see all aspects of the question. So, without going into the reasons, what were the demands and all that, there is no use of the discussion.

Shri Asoka Mehta (Muzaffarpur): May I point out, Sir, that there are 3 separate things before us? We have to decide what we are going to discuss. The first thing is Shri Naushir Bharucha's motion about the Ordinance. Either after that or simultaneously with that you have to decide about the motion which is going to be moved by the hon. Home Minister where we are going to consider this question of strike. And, the third question is the statement made by the Finance Minister, wherein certain new scales of pay have been provided to the government employees. It has to be decided as to what are the things that are going to be discussed or covered within the ambit of the discussion.

I think Shri Naushir Bharucha has first of all to make out his own case against the Ordinance and then the Home Minister will make out his own case about the strike. Whether the third thing also has to be discussed or not, I do not know. But, you said the other day, that these things will be taken up together. There is the question whether Shri Bharucha is entitled to take up both these things together now or only after the Home Minister has had his say. But the rest of the Members will be free to take these things together. That, to my mind, is the only narrow point on which you have to give your ruling.

Mr. Speaker: What I also understood was that. I said the other day—and I stick to it—that both these can be discussed together. As soon as Shri Bharucha concludes his speech I will put his motion before the House and then I will call upon the hon Home Minister to make his motion also and both of them will be discussed. Because Shri Bharucha will not have an opportunity after the Home Minister has made his motion I will allow him to refer to all that he has to say about that also treating it as having been moved already. That I can do. But, so far as the going into the details of the demands of the employees, how far they have been met, whether these had the right to strike etc. is concerned it is not right. Whether these services ought to have been made Essential Services or not is the main point. There can be difference of opinion on that.

Shri Asoka Mehta: There is still a difficulty. We shall have to find out

whether it was inevitable that the strike should have been there, whether enough efforts were made either by the strike leaders or by the Government to see that the strike did not take place. Somewhere the onus of responsibility has to be put, on one side or the other, or, perhaps, on both sides. But it is incumbent upon this House to explore the pre-strike circumstances to find out whether such a calamity or contingency should have ever confronted the country. That is wholly relevant to the discussion of the Ordinance. (*Interruptions*).

Shri Nath Pai: A very small submission, Sir.

Mr. Speaker: The hon. Home Minister. I want to dispose of this. (*Interruptions*). I said both these will be taken up together. The main question is whether these ought to be made Essential Services or whether the right to strike, of the employees even in the Secretariat, ought to be as unrestricted as the right to strike of a factory worker—whether these should be declared Essential Services or not. Whether the demands were right or not is not the subject-matter of this.

But, so far as the other question is concerned the statement of the hon Finance Minister that he accepts certain recommendations—it is a different matter. It should not be brought up here. If necessary, I will give a couple of hours separately for the discussion of that thing. I will dispose of that separately. I do not want to bring the entire gamut of the demands and all that here. I will allow an opportunity. As I said the other day, we will not find an end to it. So far as the Pay Commission Report is concerned, it has been discussed. Some people who are not satisfied with it may resort to strike. When discussing the action taken on the strike if the same matters regarding the Pay Commission Report are brought in, then once again, a person may start a strike and once again the question of a Pay Commission will come up. (*Interruptions*).

Order, order please. Why is the hon. Member impatient?

Shri Rajendra Singh: Let the Chair be not obstinate, Sir.

Mr. Speaker: This is improper. The hon. Member must withdraw his remark. There is no question of being obstinate.

Shri Rajendra Singh: I withdraw, Sir. (*Interruptions*).

Mr. Speaker: I have to decide what the scope of the discussion ought to be. I hold this view; I am prepared to alter it. I am prepared to hear Shri Nath Pai or any other Member. (*Interruptions*). What I feel is this. That is why I said even the other day that it will be endless. Any person who is not satisfied can start another strike; I do not know whether it is right or wrong. Supposing he starts it are we to bring it once again before the House. There may be one person or a number of persons or even a small group who may not be satisfied, even though the matter has been disposed of. That is the point.

The Ordinance is a different matter. The question is whether this Ordinance should be passed and a Bill should follow it up to make the strike illegal because these are made essential services. Whatever action was taken with respect to the Ordinance is another matter. Therefore, I think the scope of these two motions being taken together relates only to the Ordinance, whether these ought to be declared Essential Services or not.

Hon. Members would remember that on a prior occasion when the postal employees went on strike a similar Ordinance was passed which was followed by a Bill which was passed by this House and then went up to the other House. Therefore, the main point is whether these ought

[Mr. Speaker]

to be treated as Essential Services and whether the rights of the workers or employees in other factories or other institutions to go on strike should also be conferred on government employees or not. This is what I consider to be the simple point. I am prepared to hear Shri Nath Pai and other hon. Members one after the other.

Shri Nath Pai: After your clarification, Sir, much of the confusion should be removed. But there is only one small point which, anyhow, remains; and it is this. You were pleased to say that Shri Naushir Bharucha should confine himself as to whether these services should have been declared essential or not. May I beg to differ on this small point? His Resolution says that this House disapproves of this Ordinance. For this purpose he will have to establish two main things. One is whether an Ordinance is the normal way of dealing with a situation like this because an Ordinance presupposes the legislative power being used by the Chief Executive of the country. That is one thing. The other is whether under the circumstances the powers assumed by the Chief Executive were adequate. In proving both these points, that is, (a) whether the ordinary law of the country was enough and an Ordinance was not necessary, and (b) the powers assumed by the Executive were disproportionate taking into consideration the emergency, he will have to refer to all the precedent conditions that led to this development.

Mr. Speaker: Shri Gopalan. I will call only one spokesman from one group.

Shri A. K. Gopalan: Sir, when we speak about the strike it is our duty to see whether it was legal or illegal. There was every reason why the employees should strike. It is our duty to show that certain actions were taken which would lead them only to strike work and do nothing else. I do not say that we should go into all the items recommended by the Pay Commission. But what were the issues that provoked them to strike? Did the Government do all that they could to set them right so that there might be no strike? As far as the strike is concerned there are certain things and we will have to refer to the Pay Commission's recommendations and the background of the strike which led the employees to strike. At least those reasons must be discussed here and an opportunity must be allowed to those who feel that it was the fault of the Government but for which there would not have been a strike. There should not have been an Ordinance. It is not that I want to take up the Pay Commission's recommendations, one by one and say that some were right or some were wrong. But if you say that nothing about the Pay Commission should be referred to—some of the recommendations and the Government action thereon were the cause of the strike—I do not know what can be discussed.

Mr. Speaker: The hon. Member will answer one question. The recommendations were before this House. Some hon. Members made representations. Of course they always consult those employees to get as much information as possible . . . (*Interruptions.*) We will assume that one matter was discussed and one demand, which was let us say, the most important demand was not acceded to by the Government. Then, that very demand is put up once again by the employees. No new demand has arisen apart from the Pay Commission recommendations which were thrashed out in this House. The same demands were made at one stage and were refused at that stage. Will the same demands be the subject-matter once again merely because some other persons start a strike? He says: I was not able to convince you here; the Government is not able to be convinced: I will now take to direct action and force the issue once again; let us go into the same matter again

and then say that they ought not to have taken those steps and armed themselves with these powers and so on.

Shri A. K. Gopalan: I will take an instance: holding the price line and seeing that the prices do not go up. That was one demand. Certain things did happen as far as the prices also are concerned. It may be that the rise in prices may be a little but when it goes up further the same point has to be taken up again and the same point has to be said after these 28 months or 20 months. There are certain changes that have taken place. Though at that time the Government might have said that they did not accept them, there is every reason why the Government should accept those demands now and have them reviewed because several months have elapsed and things have changed.

Mr. Speaker: I will ask the hon. Member this question: Was it not contended even then that there was no sliding scale and that there must be a sliding scale and allowances should go up according to the price rise? Was it not one of the objections to the recommendations of the Pay-Commission? How has a new situation arisen today?

Shri A. K. Gopalan: A new situation had arisen today and please allow us to point out that new situation. We can make an appeal to the Government for that reason to make a review. Even though we have discussed it earlier and the Pay Commission did not accept our demand and the Government did not accept it, are we forbidden from making another appeal and showing reasons why it must be accepted?

Raja Mahendra Pratap (Mathura): Sir, on a point of order. Can we not investigate those ideas which led our leaders to strike? What were the origins of the ideas which captured the minds of our trade union leaders? We should discuss that also.

Acharya Kripalani (Sitamarhi): I submit that the contention of the labour leaders is that Government, in handling the situation, committed certain mistakes and having committed those mistakes in order to cover them, they passed the Ordinance. Is it not open to the man who objects to the Ordinance to say that such and such mistakes were committed by the Government? That is all. There is no other question.

Shri A. K. Gopalan: Last time when we discussed with them, certain things were not accepted by the Government. After that, Government had accepted certain things. In the 15th Labour Conference, the Government were themselves a party. This has not been discussed. That was one of the demands.

Mr. Speaker: I am going to allow a discussion separately so far as this matter is concerned . . .(*Interruptions.*)

Shri Rajendra Singh *rose*—

Mr. Speaker: Order, order, He does not know the rules or decorum. He ought not to be impatient like this. I would like to hear the hon. Home Minister regarding the scope of the discussion.

The Minister of Home Affairs (Shri G. B. Pant): I really had thought that Shri Bharucha was to speak on his motion relating to the Ordinance and as to why he thought the Ordinance should not have issued. But he has referred to many matters which had been, at least partly, subject of discussion in this House. So far as the scope of this motion is concerned, I think we are concerned here with the strike and the action taken thereon and the proposals made by the Government in that regard. I do not see how we can reopen all the issues that were discussed previously but I am entirely in your hands.

Mr. Speaker: It is agreed that so far as Shri Bharucha's motion is concerned it relates only to the Ordinance, whether it is right or wrong and the services should be classified as essential services or not and so on. He is also entitled to say whether without resort to an Ordinance, they could have used the ordinary law of the land. The other question arises in view of the motion that has been tabled by the hon. Home Minister that the strike situation be taken into account. They want to refer to the immediate causes of the strike. Naturally, as Shri Gopalan has said, they should not refer in detail to all those recommendations which were originally placed before the House; there has been enough discussion so far as those matters are concerned. Some of the more important recommendations and some changes that have been effected and which have arisen out of the motion made by the hon. Home Minister that the strike situation be taken into consideration may be referred to and to that limited extent I will allow them. Let them not go on referring to them in great detail.

The Prime Minister and Minister of External Affairs (Shri Jawaharlal Nehru): In all humility I ask whether it is desirable to continue this habit of reading out speeches from manuscripts?

Shri Rajendra Singh: Who is reading out? What is his information?

Shri Naushir Bharucha: Mr. Speaker, I intended to make some observations in relation to these demands only for the limited purpose of making out a case that not only this Ordinance was not necessary but to show how the Government has done great injustice to them . . .(*An Hon. Member:* Question) . . . (*Interruptions*) but how very reasonable the workers were and how their reasonableness was accepted by the Government themselves, Still they have suppressed the strike and promulgated the Ordinance. Only for that limited purpose, I agree fully with you that this is not the time when we can go over the 500 pages of the Pay Commission's Report.

The major two demands, I mentioned, were the minimum wages and the linking of dearness allowance to the cost of living index. Sir, it will be recalled that at the 15th Indian Labour Conference held in Delhi from the 11th to the 12th July 1957 five honourable Union Ministers were present—Shri Nanda, Shri Morarji Desai, Shri Jagjivan Ram, Shri Lal Bahadur Shastri and Sardar Swaran Singh—and what was agreed to there was that with regard to the fixation of minimum wage it was to be 'need based' and should ensure the minimum human needs of the industrial worker irrespective of any other considerations. Sir, I emphasise the words "irrespective of any other considerations". Whether the Government's capacity to pay was there or not or whether in a developing economy they can pay or not, that is not the point.

The Minister of Finance (Shri Morarji Desai): Sir, may I say that I was not present when the decision was taken by the Conference? I was present only when the conference was opened; afterwards I was not present at all.

Shri Prabhat Kar: It is the collective responsibility of the Government.

Shri Rajendra Singh: When it was sponsored the Finance Minister was there, but when the decision was taken he was not there.

Shri Naushir Bharucha: Sir, it is immaterial for my purpose. All the five Ministers may say that one by one they left the conference, I do not mind. I am reading from the summary of the proceedings. It was further decided that whenever the minimum wage fixed went below the recommendations it will be incumbent upon the authorities concerned to

justify the circumstances which prevented them from adherence to the laws laid down. Now, Sir, that means the onus of justifying lay upon the Government. Far from discharging that onus they have come out with the Ordinance on the employees.

The second point that I am making is this. In this particular conference, in his opening speech the Labour Minister said:

> "We are going to consider the question of wage policy. I have been expressing a feeling on every occasion that in spite of the increase in wages in recent years in money as well as in real terms, the workers earnings and their standard of living are too low. I adhere to this."

That was in 1957. I do not know whether he adheres to that now or he has abandoned that. But the fact remains that in making a demand for a 'need-based' minimum wage, the strike leaders who sponsored the strike were making a reasonable demand which the Union Government Ministers agreed was reasonable. There was nothing unreasonable in that.

Then I come to the question of linking dearness allowance to the cost of living index figures. It will be recalled that this Government has foisted on the textile industry the principle that D.A. must be linked to the cost of living index figure. It appears what is good for the private sector is certainly not good for our welfare State. Sir, I ask this hon. House, can you accuse the leaders of the strike as being unreasonable if they have adopted a policy and made a demand in respect of dearness allowance, which policy is being enforced on the textile industry by the Government themselves.

Sir, it has been stated that this was a political strike. I strongly repudiate that. As I said, there was nothing in it that was political. It was really and truly an industrial dispute. I ask the hon. Minister and the Government whether they still stand by the principle of having a need based minimum wage or have they abandoned it. Secondly, why was it that the hon. Labour Minister or the other Ministers at the Labour Conference did not make it quite clear that they did not agree to it? Why did they mislead the workers' representatives. Also. I want to know if the five Ministers present at the conference—they must have been present at one time or the other and it should have been surely the duty of any one of them—cared to have it recorded in the proceedings that they were not agreeable to this principle. None of them did so, and it is too late in the day now for them to turn round on the employees and say that their demands are unreasonable.

The strike developed. To my mind, Sir, it was a symptom of frustration at the Government's refusal and persistent refusal to sit round and talk with the employees. It was a result of desperation; in fact, it was a struggle for survival. The President promulgated the Ordinance, and immediately the entire machinery of the Government went into operation to crush the strike. No less than 19,000 employees were arrested, instantaneous dismissal of temporary hands took place, dismissal notices by the thousands were served and thousands were forcibly evicted from their houses, the police committed and indulged in excesses. At Dohad alone, Sir, people were shot down in their houses (*Interruption*). I ask this Government, even if a man goes on strike does that entitle the Government to justify firing? I am glad that the Government of Gujarat have ordered an enquiry into it, we shall await its findings.

Sir, the labour leaders were deliberately humiliated. May I point out to this Government one thing? I have got here a publication called *Current* dated 20th July, 1960 (*Interruption*).

[Shri Naushir Bharucha]

May I point out, Sir, I have not known *Current* to be hostile to the Government. Even if *Current* lies, pictures would not lie. Here we find Shri S. M. Joshi being dragged away like an ordinary criminal by a sub-inspector. Here is the humiliating scene of Shri Nath Pai being pushed and taken away to a police van. I ask whether this element of humiliation was absolutely necessary in the performance of Government's duty in maintaining law and order.

An Hon. Member: Legacy of the British rule.

Shri Naushir Bharucha: It is a matter of pity that instead of sitting round with the employees and talking out things the Government let loose their entire mass propaganda machinery on the employees.

I am sorry to say that in this deplorable episode the INTUC played a part which was miserable and anti-labour. The INTUC have repaid the Government handsomely for the favours shown to them. The INTUC issued a leaflet saying that the strike was wrong, the labour leaders should have sat with the Government and discussed things at a round table conference etc. This was precisely the policy which our hon. friend Shri Nath Pai and Shri S. M. Joshi and Peter Alvares wanted to follow but the Government rejected it.

Then, the strike had to be called off, and I think I must congratulate my hon. friend Shri Asoka Mehta on the bold lead that he took rather than involve more and more employees on a strike which was foredoomed to failure because of want of resources with the strikers and so many other things. He had the courage of conviction to step in and prevent further hardships on the employees. He called off the strifle. The Government had their un-conditional surrender. I do not know since when the Government have started using this war language. Was it a settlement of a strike or was the Government waging a war to the bitter end with its employees?

Sir, the Ordinance has been promulgated as an extraordinary remedy. Instead of promulgating the Ordinance the Government could have taken action under sections 10, 22, 23 and 24 of the Industrial Disputes Act. Why was that not done? Had the Government no desire to adopt their own machinery for the resolution of industrial disputes? The Ordinance is an extraordinary remedy. In 1949 when the United Kingdom was faced with a dock labour strike of country-wide dimensions—U. K. would have been starved within six weeks for want of imports of foodstuffs—did the Government promulgate an Ordinance and resort to a machinery which this Government has resorted to to suppress the strike?

What does this Ordinance do? It defines Essential Services as any service in the sweet will of the Government. It prohibits strikes in essential services. It declares the strike, which was lawful in its inception, as illegal with retrospective effect. It creates an offence with retrospective effect. It punishes workers with imprisonment with retrospective effect. It overrides all the provisions of the Criminal Procedure Code. It overrides all the provisions of the Industrial Disputes Act and all other laws except the Preventive Detention Act of which the Government appear to have made copious use.

With regard to the definition of "essential service", the Government say what is essential service is a service which "in their opinion" is essential. The Privy Council has held that whenever the words 'in their opinion' are used in any legislation it really means that the high court or any court has no power to enquire whether the Government is right or wrong and whether there are sufficient grounds

for coming to that opinion. Therefore, this provision is absolutely arbitrary.

Similarly, clause 3 prohibits a strike in the public interest. What is public interest has been interpreted in 52 *Supreme Court Journal* at page 446. It says that it is a very elastic term and that anything can come under it. Here, may I remind this House of a similar strike in essential services in Bombay in 1949 of which I am sure the hon. Shri Morarji Desai who was then the Chief Minister or Home Minister of Bombay is amply aware? The sweepers in Bombay went on strike for five months and my hon. friend Shri Morarji Desai imprisoned 2,000 sweepers, saying that they had no right to go on strike in an essential service. The Government made it a point of law to be contested and I took up the challenge and said that they the workers had right to strike. 2,000 people were convicted. We went to the high court and in its judgment the High court held that workers in essential services had the right to go on strike. The hon. Chief Justice, Mr. Chagla, said, "Do I take, in this year of grace, 1949, the Advocate-General to mean that the Government had instructed him to say that in the essential services the workers were bonded slaves?" The expression "bonded slaves" was used by the Chief Justice. They are not bonded slaves just because they happen to be in essential services. Now, the ordinance wants to circumvent this right to strike in essential services which has been established. That judgment was in regard to Kashya Vithal *v* the Province of Bombay.

The strike which was legal at the inception has been made illegal by the Ordinance with retrospective effect, by the use of the words, "before or after the issue of the Order." Many unions gave notice of strike before the Ordinance, now the ordinance makes such notices illegal with retrospective effect. Then automatically the union becomes liable to have its recognition withdrawn. A trade union cannot give a notice of a strike which is illegal. But having given a strike notice, at a time when it was legal, today, you make it illegal with retrospective effect, which means that you render the union punishable with a penalty in the form of withdrawal of recognition, merely because you have chosen to enact the Ordinance in the way it is done. Thus, the *bona fide* exercise of a fundamental right by a Union is made the excuse for the withdrawal of the union's recognition.

Then comes clause 4 of the ordinance which inflicts penalty with retrospective effect in violation of article 20 (1) of the Constitution, which says:

> "No person shall be convicted of any offence except for violation of a law in force at the time of the commission of the act charged as an offence,.....".

The ordinance goes beyond all these things. Then clause 7 overrides the Criminal Procedure Code which is intended to safeguard the liberty of the individual so that nobody can be arrested without the issue of a warrant. This ordinance knows no distinction between cognizable and non-cognizable offence or anything whatsoever

Then, clause 8 overrides the Industrial Disputes Act. May I know whether the Government of India have adjured by statute the principle of resolving industrial disputes by arbitration? Clause 8 overrides all other laws. I ask this House whether this House can approve of an Ordinance which overrides all known laws of the country, which adjures the Constitutional methods of solving industrial disputes by negotiation, which imperils the growth of sound trade unionism in this country and reduces the worker to the position of a bonded slave?

Mr. Speaker: The hon. Member's time is up.

Shri Naushir Bharucha: I shall conclude with an appeal to the Government. There has been too much discretion left with the heads of the Government. This House has a vital responsibility. Can it merely rubberstamp the Ordinance and give it its approval? I ask this question because principles and policies for the development of trade unionism on healthy lines and for resolving all industrial disputes in a peaceful way may be laid down. Do we have the statesmanship to build up conventions to respect the law, or do we desire merely to keep under our feet two millions of our Government employees? The remedy, to my mind, would be, there should be no banning of strikes in essential services. Only those cases must be dealt with harshly—here I fully agree—where there has been violence or intimidation or instigation to violence or sabotage. All cases merely of absence from duty must be withdrawn. A sort of general amnesty should be declared. No black remarks on service records should be placed. No victimisation should be allowed, especially of local trade union leaders. Temporary hands should be reinstated. There should be no breaks in service. There should be no withdrawal of trade unions' recognition. Even the Pay Commission has not recommended any such withdrawal. Discretionary powers of Departmental heads should be withdrawn and the Government should sit round a table and discuss the entire situation with labour leaders.

I would ask this House to remember that there can be no justice in a struggle between the Government and its employees so long as the Government tramples down on human sentiments of the employees and so long as those who have asserted their trade union rights remain entangled in the tatters of their trade union privileges. In politics, there is no permanent victory and no permanent defeat. In the words of Lord Buddha that victory is best in which neither side is defeated. Sir, I invite the House to approve my resolution.

Shri K. N. Pandey (Hata): I may put one question. Did he ever consult the INTUC before taming any decision for the strike? If not, why should the INTUC be blamed? Instead of being ashamed of unpatriotic work, you are now blaming the others and—(*Interruptions*)—statutory,....

Mr. Speaker: Order, order.

Shri Rajendra Singh: They raised black flags.

An. Hon. Member: Black sheep.

Mr. Speaker: If the hon. Member persists in this kind of unruly conduct, in the House, I will have to ask the hon. Member to keep himself out of the House.

Shri Rajendra Singh: The hon. Member branded us as blameworthy, and.....

Mr. Speaker: Will he sit down or go out of the House? Hon. Members have been hearing the speech. Shri Naushir Bharucha was speaking and I wanted to tell him that he need not refer to any other aspect of the matter. I kn w this sort of trouble would come in. Another hon. Member who is interested referred to INTUC. It is natural. The hon. Member wants to know whether INTUC was consulted or not. But what is this kind of getting up and then trying to protest?

Shri Rajendra Singh: The hon. Member referred to.....

Mr. Speaker: If the hon. Member persists, I would ask him to withdraw from the House. He need not refer to it.

Shri Rajendra Singh: He did so.

Mr. Speaker: He may do so in answer to what Shri Naushir Bharucha said. I shall place the motion before the House.

Shri Braj Raj Singh (Firozabad): Sir, before you place the motion, I should like to point out that calling somebody traitor in the House is not proper. If my hon. friend has called anybody traitor, he must . . . (*Interruptions*).

Mr. Speaker: I do not know. Did he say traitor?....He said "unpatriotic".

Shri Nath Pai: Possibly, he might have said so. Let him repeat the question, I could not hear because of the noise.

Mr. Speaker: I do not think he said traitor in respect of any Member of the House. It is only the word "unpatriotic" that he used. Of course, any hon. Member can say "unpatriotic". (*Laughter*) Motion moved:

> "This House disapproves of the Essential Services Maintenance Ordinance, 1960 (Ordinance No. 1 of 1960) promulgated by the President on the 8th July, 1960."

There are no amendments to this Resolution. I now call upon the hon. Minister of Home Affairs.

Shri G. B. Pant: Sir, I beg to move:

> "That the situation arising out of the recent strike of some Central Government employees and the action taken by the Government of India in connection therewith be taken into consideration."

Sir, the motion which I have just placed before the House is an altogether non-controversial one. Shri Bharucha, who spoke on his resolution made a speech which covered much wider ground than would be relevant for the purposes of his resolution. He referred to various matters and I was rather perplexed whether he could appreciate the significance of the general strike or the magnitude of the peril which it necessarily involves. He was talking of the ordinance, but then, he just touched it on the fringe and said nothing particularly about it.

13 hrs.

So far as the ordinance is concerned, it embodies only the provisions of the Bill that was passed by this House in 1957. At that time, there was a threat of a strike by only one of the essential services, i.e. Posts and Telegraphs. The House examined the position and after having given full thought to all aspects of the piece of legislation placed before it and also to the necessity—the imperative necessity—of maintaining the Posts and Telegraphs in proper order and running that service in a regular way, it passed that law. So far as this House is concerned, that Bill is still there; it is pending in the Upper House

The position today, or rather at the time when this essential ordinance was introduced—I call it essential ordinance, instead of calling it an ordinance for the maintenance of essential services, because it was an inescapable necessity. So, when this ordinance was issued, the situation was really grave. Shri Bharucha said that we should not think that we have achieved a victory over labour. He might be thinking of victory or of defeat, but to me it is not a matter at all of any pleasure that Shri Bharucha should appear in the scene as an advocate of even a section of the Government servants. I feel that my relations with them are more intimate and my desire to serve them and to do the best for them is much more sincere than that of any other person whatsoever.

Shri Naushir Bharucha: Hence the ordinance.

Shri G. B. Pant: But the Government servants as well as the Government have to bear the interest of the

[Shri G. B. Pant]

entire community in mind. It is their primary duty to see that whatever step they take enures to the benefit of the people of the country as a whole.

Government servants are not like industrial workers. Shri Bharucha said, it was a sort of an attack on labour unions as such. He is doing some injustice to the public servants when he places them on an even category with the industrial workers in factories and other places. They are here as trustees of the nation and it is their duty and function to serve the nation. Whatever allowances they get are not necessarily adequate, because in a country the measure of adequacy cannot be determined on theoretical grounds. It has to be related to the conditions prevailing in the country.

Shri Bharucha said that it was a bad law that we have passed. Has he any idea of the magnitude of the problem with which the country was faced? Has he any idea of the dreadful consequences that would have followed if this strike had succeeded? Would he even now like the railways, the posts and telegraphs, the defence installations and all other essential services connected with these and others to be paralysed? Can he lead a civilised life even for a day if he is faced with such a situation? What would be the effect on society in general? How would our economic and social life be disrupted completely? How could the very serious problems, whether within or outside the country that are facing us, be solved even in a very inadequate manner, if such a situation actually arose? I think he will concede that it would be a tragedy and a disaster and it would only lead not only to what some people might wish—the Government being placed in a difficult position—but to chaos and disorder, with the result that the aspirants, whosoever they may be, will not be able to find a foothold even here. So, he should have given some thought to this aspect of the problem.

When an ordinance was justified when there was a threat from only one of the essential services and those connected with that movement were sensible enough to withdraw it after the ordinance had been passed, here we are concerned not with the threat by one, but by a very large number of unions and there, we have a committee of action, whether it is called a combined committee or what else...

Some Hon. Members: Joint Council of Action.

Shri G. B. Pant: Yes; joint council. Anyway, it was not called a joint conspirary, it was a joint committee of action. A joint committee for action, dominated mostly by people who do not belong to the services, in order to incite the services to go in for a strike does not look very appropriate.

Shri Rajendra Singh: While advocating the cause of your trade union.. (*Interruptions*).

Shri G B. Pant: Sir, what would have been the result, I was just saying, if the strike had succeeded? We have many cities which have not got stock of food for more than three or four days. Thousands and thousands would have to starve there. At the same time, our water works, our electricity, our industries depend on the supply of coal. If coal did not reach them for three or four days, there will be no water to drink in cities, there will be no light and there would be nothing but anarchy and chaos.

So, if an Ordinance like this was valid, permissible and necessary in 1956, it is much more so today. And then there is another salient feature about it. In 1957 when the threat of the strike was held out, it was because the Government servants had not got any sort of relief or increment. Here, this strike threat is held out because they have got something, because they have been given something and because, in the mean-

time, their emoluments have been increased and raised. And what was the basis on which we were told this strike was launched? It is said that we did not turn down the recommendations of the Pay Commission, its basic and fundamental recommendations. What was the Pay Commission's composition? It was presided over by a Judge of the Supreme Court. It had an economist of repute, who perhaps is well known to many of the members on the other side. It had also a Vice-Chancellor who had been the Chairman of the Public Service Commission and others who are equally esteemed. A Commission like that, after having heard everybody, including the leaders of the Opposition parties, reaches certain conclusions and makes certain recommandations. These two issues were placed before that Commission, that the Resolution of the 15th Labour Conference must be accepted by the Commission. Well, I may say that even responsible members of the opposition parties, at least some of them, for whom I have enough of regard, did not consider that it was a feasible proposition.

Shri Chintamoni Panigrahi (Puri): Who are they?

Shri Rajendra Singh: Who are they?

Shri G. B. Pant: You are not one of them! It was conceded by all sensible and reasonable persons that this could not be done. But what has been done? The basic pay, which used to be Rs. 30 or Rs. 35 has been raised to Rs. 70. With Rs. 10 as dearness allowance it comes to Rs. 80. And there are other things which they have forgotten, that there are annual increments which are double of what they used to be and the maximum has been raised to Rs. 85 plus 10. That is to say, the real scale of emoluments now will vary between Rs. 80 and 95. There is the guarantee of pension and there is that security in Government service. I venture to think that anyone who is outside Government and getting Rs. 150 would be quite glad to change his place with a Government servant getting a sum of Rs. 95.

Shri Braj Raj Singh: For extra payment?

Shri G. B. Pant: That would prove how it was something which gave them much greater benefit than what the workers even in private industry are enjoying today. The Pay Commission has discussed the matter fully and it is said that in private industries in many places the minimum pay comes to only Rs. 70; in others it may be even less. So, even in comparison with them it has been quite high.

Then we have to consider that the result of the recommendations of the Pay Commission will be that nearly Rs. 45 crores will be added to the annual bill of salaries and later it will rise to Rs. 55 crores. That means during the period of five years of the Third Plan Rs. 250 crores will have to be paid in addition on account of the recommendations made by the Pay Commission and accepted by Government.

Then the whole matter has to be considered also from the aspect of other Government servants and also the mass of the people living in the country. If a Government servant is entitled to a minimum salary for his bare maintenance, then every citizen is entitled to that.

An Hon. Member: Do it.

Shri Prabhat Kar: You art failing in your policy.

Shri Rajendra Singh: Better resign if you cannot do it.

Shri G. B. Pant: It is not our failure but it is the success that we are achieving in adding to the national income and to the *per capita* income..

Shri Chintamoni Panigrahi: By taking more.

Shri G. B. Pant . . . in spite of the obstructions and impediments from various other quarters.

Shri Prabhat Kar: The result is known to everybody.

An hon. Member: You are the cause for that.

Shri G. B. Pant: Now the salary that a State Government servant is getting is much less than what the Central Government servant is getting. A local body employees is getting only half of what they are getting. There are so many millions of people.

Shri Tangamani (Madurai): What about the agricultural labour?

Shri G. B. Pant: I think some of my colleagues on the other benches should not shout very loudly. They can ask Shri Gopalan what steps the Communist Government in Kerala took when the N.G.O. Government servants, teachers who were under training and others, held out a threat of strike. What did they say?

What did they say? What did Shri Achuta Menon say? What were the statements issued by the Kerala Government? How many.....

Shri A. K. Gopalan: I can reply to that.

Shri G. B. Pant: Of course, you can do that. When I put the question, I do not want to guide you. But the answer will not help you....(*Interruption*).

They said that they could not give any further relief though the salary that they were getting was much less than what the Central Government servants had been getting then and it would be much less as compared with what they will be getting now.

The Government does not pay anything out of any profit. If you pay your servants more, you have to take more from the people and perhaps more from those whose conditions is, as compared with our servants at the bottom of the ladder, poorer and more pitiable. Should you take away from Peter who has no clothes on his body even the loin-cloth that he has so that the other man may have a tie....(*Interruption*)? That is not the position which, I think, could be accepted.

What the Government did was acclaimed by the people from one end to the other....(*Interruption*). The strike was condemned by every sensible person....(*Interruption*). For the first time after Independence the citizens of this country shed off their placidity and came out in the open to condemn this strike.....(*Interruption*). Thousands and thousands offered their services and apart from that more than four-fifths of the Government servants did not go on strike even for half an hour. If it was something done in their interests.....

Shri Chintamoni Panigrahi: And you arrested 19,000!

Shri G. B. Pant: We arrested 19,000 but you are still out. We let out all those who, I think, had organised the strike as we thought that thereby good sense will prevail. But that hope seems to have belied altogether. We did that and in that way we had the support of the entire people. Are they going to defy the people? Are they the representatives of the people and is that their function.....(*Interruption*)?

Shri Naushir Bharucha: Who?

Shri G. B. Pant: The hon. Members on the opposite side who are shouting the most. There may be a difference of opinion. I do not say that every word that I am saying must be accepted by everyone, but why become so impatient and so vociferous when the entire country has proved as to what was right and when the

people have demonstrated by their behaviour as to what was wrong and what should never have been contemplated or thought of? Then, the vast majority of the Government servants have themselves given a reply. That reply has been given by this that more than 80 per cent. were present every day and there was hardly any place, except perhaps in some parts of Bengal and Gujarat and in Bombay City where we have all sorts of elements..... (*Interruption*), except in these places, where the normal working of the essential services was interfered with.

Here, in Delhi when we get up on the morning of the 12th July, we were told that every train had been running to a minute all the night, that every letter had been regularly posted and that everything was being done in a manner which showed greater efficiency and promptness than in normal times.... (*Interruption*). Such were the reports from various other States.

This is what happened. These are real things. These are facts and they cannot be questioned. There were people who had told that somebody was not handled properly. I would not like anyone to be mishandled nor any subject to be mi handled, whether it be animate or inanimate. But so far as this particular things goes, there were at least 135 cases of sabotage and more than 200 cases of intimidation, obstruction and so on. Abusive language was used in various places. Those whom we held in the hightest respect were the subject wild slogans..... (*Interruption*). Then there was also in some places this much that effigies of some of the responsible... (*Interruption*) leaders in this country were taken round, beaten on the way and ultimately burnt to ashes. I have not heard a word of condemnation from anyone so far..... (*An Hon. Member*: Where was it?) not from those who organised the strike nor from others who were interested in it. But I will not read out the long list that I have with me of what was done in the course of the strike.

I say that if the Government had not taken the steps that it did then we would have lo t all that we had gained since the achievement of independence. That is not my judgment. That is the judgment of the entire country and the way they worked, the way they offered their services and the way they supported those who were working proves that it was not only an offer in words, but there was for the first time stimulated in the country a sincere and earnest desire to be actively of service to the State and to the people.

The public services are there to serve the people. When they refuse to take coal to the water works, when they refuse to transport food to the starving people, it is an unpardonable offence. But they are our own people. We cannot be very strict with them. They belong to the large family to which we also happen to belong for the time being. So what causes me regret is the loss that has been inflicted on them. They have lost more than Rs. 70 lakhs in wages. The Government has lost more than Rs. 4 crores in its earnings during the four or five days of the strike. There has been a national loss in various departments .... (*Interruption*) industries and the like, so that it is difficult to give a correct estimate of it.

Now, apart from the merits of the question, there is a fundamental issue before us, and it is this. When a matter of this type is referred to a high-powered Commission like the Pay Commission and its basic recommendations are turned down by the Government, then what is the precedent that we will be setting up? How can we justify any departure from the recommendations made by such a high-powered committee, after such a Commission had given full opportunity to every body, whatever be its political views, to express its opinion? Now, these are the basic recommendations.

[Shri G. B. Pant]

It has been said that the Prime Minister had refused to meet the leaders. That is not correct. What the Prime Minister had said, and what any reasonable man will accept as being the very minimum that has to be accepted, was this that so far as the basic recommendations are concerned we cannot discuss them, because if the foundations are undermined, then the entire structure falls down. But the Prime Minister was always prepared to consider matters within the framework of the recommendations of Pay Commission, and those who have been glibly talking about it have perhaps forgotten all that he said in his broadcast to the nation. Well, perhaps they did not listen to it, or if they listend to it they did not allow his words to enter their minds, much less their hearts. But everyone else in the country was moved, was touched. And even there he has said that matters can be discussed within the framework of the Pay Commission's report.

And it is said that there were no talks. There were talks between the Labour Minister and the leaders of the Committee of Action, not as members of the Committee of Action but as respected individuals; because, the Committee of Action cannot be recognised by any Government and it cannot have talks with the Committee of Action as such, because there is a principle involved in it. And there can be no room for militancy in the services. They have to function under the code prescribed for them. They have to be disciplined, not in the interests of the Government but in the interest of the country. We have to raise the standard of efficiency, *Per capita* efficiency and *per capita* productivity in the country. Therein lies the real key to the maintenance of a proper price line too. If everyone can produce more, then there can be no difficulty in maintaining the price line. But if everyone is asked to go slow while in work, or if everyone is advised to strike everyday, one gets an opportunity to go in for a little violence and then the difficulties increase.

But again, the question which arises is as to who is responsible, who would be responsible. I do not say that we have no responsibility so long as we are here. But in these matters it must be understood that others also have a certain responsibility.

There was another reference here—somebody said, I think it was Mr. Naushir Bharucha—that the Prime Minister had said that in Russia there was no right of strike. And he said, "But when did the Prime Minister come to like Russia and so on. I do no know". The Prime Minister has never been against Russia; Mr. Bharucha may have been. So, if Mr. Bharucha has greater regard or affinity for another country, say U.S.A., where all strikes of government servants are not only prohibited by rules but are regarded as penal offences, I will just acquaint him with what one of the greatest statesman of the United States of America, which is not alike Russia and which belongs to a different school, has said in this respect.

Shri Naushir Bharucha: What I said was that in that case pay them the U.S. scales and then prohibit the strikes.

Shri G. B. Pant: So far as I am aware, there have been frequent changes in salary in our country, and there have been attempts to raise the salary from time to time. But I do not know if the public servants there have ever pressed for a minimum wage which should be higher than the minimum wage which the lowest in the country enjoys. Well, there at least he will have no objection on the ground that what I am now placing before him comes, not from Russia, but from U.S.A.

President Roosevelt sent a letter to the President of the National Federation of Federal Employees in 1937 in which he said:

"Particularly I want to emphasise my conviction that militant tactics have no place in the functions of any organisation of government employees. Upon employees in the Federal Service rests the obligation to serve with the whole people whose interest and welfare require orderliness and continuity in the conduct of government activities. This obligation is paramount. Since their own services have to do with the functioning of the Government, a strike of public employees manifests nothing less than an intent on their part to prevent or obstruct the operations of Government until their demands are satisfied. Such action, looking towards the paralysis of Government by those who have sworn to support is unthinkable and intolerable. It is therefore with a feeling of gratification that I have noted in the constitution of the National Federation of Federal Employees the provision that under no circumstances shall this Federation engage in or support a strike against the United States Government."

Well, there are many other countries....

Shri Rajendra Singh: Those conditions in the United States do not apply in this country

Mr. Speaker: Order, order. I warn this hon. Member that unless he keeps quiet and does not interfere or interrupt, I will be obliged to ask him to keep out of the House for the rest of the day. I cannot put up with this.

Shri Rajendra Singh: All right, I will go out.

Mr. Speaker: He will keep out of the House. I hereby direct the hon. Member to withdraw from the House for the rest of the day.

Shri Rajendra Singh: All right, I am going out if that is the way you want to conduct the proceedings.

13.40 hrs.

(Shri Rajendra Singh then left the House).

Mr. Speaker: I am aware that, this is a very vexed. subject... (*Interruptions*). Order, order Hon. Members cannot go on interrupting like this. I have allowed Shri A. K. Gopalan. I shall try to give all the Groups here an opportunity. But this is not the manner in which one should go on interrupting. Nothing is gained by this.

Shri G. B. Pant: I really did not think that the proposition that I have placed before the House would call for all that I have said, but the speech of Shri Naushir Bharucha made it incumbent upon me to clear up certain points.

I may say that the withdrawl of the strike was a formal one, because before that most of the unions had already withdrawn their notices and there was hardly any possibility of the strike dragging on for another day or two. We received the news of the withdrawal of the strike with a certain amount of relief because we did not want even a few of our servants to suffer under the influence of others. So, we received it with relief. It is my pleasent duty today to express my appreciation of the loyal and devoted services rendered by the large number of Government servants in spite of all the persuasive and coercive methods that were employed against them.

I am also grateful to the various State Governments for the masterly way in which they handled the situation. The whole administration worked as one unit with a determined purpose in a methodical way, and for that I think we have to be grateful to them. That showed and demonstrated the capacity of the Governments and this ountry—all of them happen to be now associated with the Congress—to handle any crisis; and I am also thankful can I say anything about that—about the attitude of the public. No words can

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convey the sentiments that I have, not because of the co-operation that they gave, but because of the revival of that spirit which seemed at one time to have been completely suppressed. I would not say anything about other leaders who helped us. If I mention labour leaders, there will be, I think a furore somewhere. So, I will not. But I regret that all this should have happened.

Now it is our desire to do all we can to avoid anything that may lead to any misunderstanding between the Government and its employees because the relations between them should be of utmost cordiality; there should be mutual confidence and the Government servants should have greater trust in the Government than in anybody else. That is the task which now faces us. We have, on the one hand, issued instructions that those who had been arrested, or those who had even been convicted, or those who have even been suspended, should be dealt with leniently, and should be punished only to the extent it is necessary in public interest and for the maintenance of discipline and efficiency and also for avoiding a repetition of such scenes. That is what we want to do. And I can say that action has already been taken on these lines, and large numbers have been already released, or now allowed to resume duty, but there also the action taken by us is not final. We [illegible] to devise means [illegible] be no to be d neither d Telesort of al. But nt in- they nions hem- here iery for nt, to arbitration, so that things may proceed harmoniously and justice may be done to all.

I think the Government wants to do its best by its services. It has accepted the recommendations; it has even given some of the public servants more than what has been proposed by the Commission. It has also accepted the proposal for review of the position when there is a persistent rise of ten points in the index of prices for twelve months, and it is possible that the Government may take a decision that at least half of such rise or the loss or hardship due to it should be neutralised automatically, and for the rest, if necessary, a reference may be made to an impartial body.

What I have said, I think, proves, if anybody has any doubt anywhere, Government's earnest desire to do its best by and for its servants and at the same time to do by the people at large, to whom it owes primary responsibility, what is due to them.

Mr. Speaker: Motion moved:

"That the situation arising out of the recent strike of some Central Government employees and the action taken by the Government of India in connection therewith be taken into consideration."

Shri Vajpayee: I beg to move:

That for the original motion, the following be substituted, namely:

"This House having considered the situation arising out of the recent strike of some Central Government employees and the action taken by the Government of India in connection therewith, is of the opinion that because of its failure to accede to the reasonable demands of Government employees it is the Union Government that has been primarily

responsible for precipitating the strike and further regrets—

(a) that the Government have gone back on its commitments regarding the decisions taken at the Fifteenth Labour Conference in regard to the fixing of a minimum wage;

(b) that the Government have failed to keep the price line in check and have refused to link Dearness Allowance with rise in price index;

(c) that Government announced concessions to Railway employees and acceptance of Pay Commission's recommendations for employees only when the strike became imminent;

(d) that the Prime Minister refused to meet representatives of the employees;

(e) that notwithstanding its affirmation that it proposed to treat the Pay Body's Report as an award, the Government altered the recommendations at will, and made haste in implementing specially those recommendations that were unfavourable to the employees;

(f) that notwithstanding the unconditional calling off of the strike, the Government refuses to release and reinstate employees who participated in strike;

(g) that wide arbitrary powers of dealing with employees who participated in strike have been given to officials; **and**

(h) that recognition of various Unions participating in the strike should have been withdrawn." (1)

Shri B. K. Gaikwad (Nasik): Sir, I want to move my amendment with slight modification. There appears to be a misprint in my amendment. In the last but third line, it should read "who did not participate" instead of "who participated".

Mr. Speaker: It can be moved subject to the modification.

Shri B. K. Gaikwad: I beg to move:

That for the original motion, the following be substituted, namely:

"This House having considered the situation arising out of the recent strike of some Central Government employees and the action taken by the Government of India in connection therewith disapproves of the conferring of wide powers on some officers of the Central Government for taking action against the employees, particularly Scheduled Castes, who did not participate in the strike and the behaviour of such officers towards the strikers." (4)

Shri Tridib Kumar Chaudhuri (Berhampur): I beg to move:

That for the original motion, the following be substituted, namely:

"This Housing having considered the situation arising out of the recent strike of some Central Government employees and the action taken by the Government of India in connection therewith disapproves of the decision of the Government to withdraw recognition of all Central Government Employees Unions, including such well established Unions as the All India Railwaymen's Federation, the National Federation of Posts and Telegraphs Employees, the All India Defence Employees Federation and the Confederation of Central Government Employees, for participation in the strike and the launching by the Government and the heads of departments concerned such punitive measures as suspension and

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discharge of employees on a mass scale in spite of the strike being withdrawn unconditionally." (2)

That for the original motion, the following be substituted, namely:

"This House having considered the situation arising out of the recent strike of some Central Government employees and the action taken by the Government of India in connection therewith disapproves of the entire policy of the Government in handling the strike and regrets the failure of the Government for not meeting the just demands of the strikers and creating thereby a condition favourable for the withdrawal of the strike through a negotiated settlement with the Employees' Unions concerned." (3)

Shri Kasliwal (Kotah): I beg to move:

That for the original motion, the following be substituted, namely:

"This House having considered the situation arising out of the recent strike of some Central Government employees and the action taken by the Government of India in connection therewith, approves of the various measures taken by Government in this regard." (5)

Shri Jaganatha Rao (Koraput): I beg to move:

That for the original motion, the following be substituted, namely:

"This Housing having considered the situation arising out of the recent strike of some Central Government employees and the action taken by the Government of India in connection therewith, approves the action and the stand of the Government of India thereon." (6)

Shri S. M. Banerjee (Kanpur): I beg to move:

That for the original motion, the following be substituted, namely:

"This House having considered the situation arising out of the recent strike of some Central Government employees and the action taken by the Government of India in connection therewith, is of the opinion that Government failed to have a peaceful negotiated settlement which was responsible for the All India strike and further regrets,—

(a) that Government have not respected the unanimous decisions of the Fifteenth Labour Conference regarding minimum wage;

(b) that Government have failed to hold the price line and in its absence to link the Dearness Allowance with cost of living index;

(c) that Government have failed to concede the legitimate demands of the Central Government employees regarding restoration of concessions withdrawn by the Pay Commission;

(d) that the Prime Minister refused to meet the members of the Joint Council of Action;

(e) that wide arbitrary powers were given to officials to deal with the strike;

(f) that even after calling of the strike the Government refuses to release and reinstate employees who participated in the strike; and

(g) that recognition to various Unions and Federations who participated in the strike should have been withdrawn." (7)

Shri T. B. Vittal Rao (Khammam): I beg to move:

That for the original motion, the following be substituted, namely:

"This House having considered the situation arising out of the recent strike of some Central Government employees and the action taken by the Government of India in connection therewith, is of the opinion that the Government of India is solely responsible for precipitating the strike by refusing to accede to the just demands of the Central Government employees for linking of Dearness Allowance with the cost of living index and further disapproves of the policy of withdrawing of the recognition accorded to All India Railwaymen's Federation, the National Federation of Posts and Telegraphs Employees, Civil Aviation Department Employees Union and All India Income-tax Employees Association" (8)

Shri A. K. Gopalan: I beg to move:

That for the original motion, the following be substituted, namely:

"This House, having considered the situation arising out of the recent strike of some Central Government employees and the action taken by the Government of India in connection therewith, regrets that—

(a) the Government refused to negotiate with the representatives of the Central Government on the most important questions of linking of dearness allowance with cost of living index and the progressive realisation of a minimum wage calculated on the basis of the decisions of the Fifteenth Indian Labour Conference;

(b) the Prime Minister did not agree to meet the Standing Committee of the Joint Council of Action of the Central Government employees;

(c) that the Government instead of meeting the just and reasonable demands of the employees and dealing with them in a democratic way befitting our traditions, professions, resorted to severe repression, trampling under foot all democratic values and creating a regime of terror;

(d) that the Government has failed to take and is still refusing to take any positive steps which will arrest the enormous increase in prices taking place causing untold suffering to all the fixed income groups including the entire working people of the country;

(e) that the Government has gone back on the assurances it held out to the representatives on the eve of the strike;

(f) that the Government while saying that it wants to treat the Second Pay Commission Report as an award, in fact modified a number of its recommendations to suit their convenience;

(g) that in spite of repeated public assurances, the Government is resorting to vindictive attitude towards the employees and is victimising thousands of them on flimsy and unjustifiable grounds; and

(h) that the Government is withdrawing recognition from the representative unions which enjoy the support of the employees." (9)

Mr. Speaker: All these amendments are now before the House, subject, of course, to my finding out whether any particular portion is out of order.

[Mr. Speaker]

Now, I shall call upon Shri A. K. Gopalan to speak. So far as Leaders of the Groups are concerned, I may permit them to speak up to half an hour each. So far as the others are concerned, they will be given not more than fifteen minutes each.

Shri A. K. Gopalan: The Central Government employees' strike was an unprecedented event of the recent times. The conduct of Government before the strike, during the time of the strike, and after the strike, has been something which has shocked the conscience of every honest man in this country, barring some, perhaps, on the other side.

There was official propaganda to belittle the wide extent of the strike. There was also an attempt to screen from the public the accumulated discontent among the Government employees. But, notwithstanding all this terror, the Ordinance and also the appeal that was made by the Prime Minister, the Central Government employees, nearly a million of them, struck work.

After hearing the speech of the hon. Home Minister, I feel disappointed. Instead of understanding and reviewing the situation, he has certainly made a speech which has given me the impression that the lessons of the strike have not been understood by Government. He said in the course of his speech that the Government servants had been incited. I want to ask him, how, in spite of the appeal made by the Prime Minister, in spite of the Ordinance and in spite of all the terror that had been created and knowing that if they went on strike, bad consequences will follow, the Central Government employees did go on strike. After all, these Central Government employees have been serving Government for the last so many years. Is it contended that because of the incitement by half a dozen people, lakhs and lakhs of these Central Government employees went on strike? If the hon. Home Minister contends like that, then it only means that certainly the relations between the Central Government as the employer and the Central Government employees as the employees are very bad, and the Central Government have not won the confidence of lakhs and lakhs of Central Government employees all over the country.

If, for the last thirteen years, hey have not been able to win the confidence and affection of the employees, in spite of the fact that every time they had been given increment in wages and other things, I think it is high time that Government should realise that they cannot function with their employees, and, they should quit.

What was the root-cause of the strike? In spite of the appeal made by the Prime Minister, why did the Central Government employees go on strike? This was what we expected Government at least would understand and look into. We expected a minimum sense of responsibility on the part of Government, instead of self-righteousness But, that was the theme of the speech of the Home Minister. The Home Minister has said that Government were all right, and it was only some political parties, it was only the Opposition parties which incited lakhs and lakhs of employees to go on strike. He also wanted to belittle the extent of the strike, and he said that many were there who did not go on strike.

It may be that merely a million of the employees have gone on strike. But we have not forgotten the case of Dr. Joseph. There may be many like Dr. Joseph who, due to frustration, may be thinking of committing suicide. Due to fear, some of them may not have joined the strike. Due to terror and due to so many other intimadations and other things, many of them may not have joined the strike. Does it mean that Government should not understand the

magnitude of the situation and why in spite of the terror of the Ordinance and the appeal made by the Prime Minister, lakhs and lakhs of employees went on strike? After all, it is their own employees who have been working with them for the last so many years, who have gone on strike. But the Home Minister has not referred to this point at all in his speech, and he has instead sidetracked the issue.

He has said that it is not because of discontentment, it is not because the Central Government employees had any grievance or suffering, it is not because they had any reasonable demands to make, but it is because of incitement that the Central Government employees went on strike. Also, Government viewed it as a rebellion inspired by somebody outside.

Alhough I would not like to go into the details about the Pay Commission's recommendations etc., I would like to point out the reasons which prompted them to go on a strike. When the First Pay Commission's report was submitted, the Central Government employees wanted that that report must be implemented fully, but it was not fully implemented. Ever since 1946 when there was a strike and the Government appointed a Pay Commission and the Pay Commission gave their recommendations, the Central Government employees have been agitating over this issue. They wanted that the recommendations of the First Pay Commission should be fully implemented, and they waited for some time. They thought that Government would do something in the matter, but when they found that nothing was done, they gave a strike notice in 1957. They gave a strike notice because they had found that it was only after a big pressure that Government would move.

Even as far as the recommendations of the Second Pay Commission are concerned, why is it that certain changes and modifications have been made only after the strike and not fore the strike? Why is it that before the strike, Government did not announce that they were going to make some modifications? And why did they do so after the strike?

It was because there was the pressure of the strike. Even in 1957, it was only after the strike notice was given that the Second Pay Commission was appointed, and it was only then that an interim relief was given. So, this time also, as usual, Government have made the employees understand that it is only after pressure that they would move; and due to the united pressure of the Government employees, Government have moved. It was only to bring pressure on Government and to make Government understand that they are united and they want that the reasonable demands of the Government employees must be accepted by Government, that they went on strike.

As far as the strike is concerned, two important issues arise out of it. The Home Minister has said that Government are giving something more to the employees. But he did not see the other side of the picture. What is the use of giving Rs. 10 more, if they are not able to hold the price-line? What is the use of giving Rs. 10 more to the worker, if the price of cloth rises by 40 per cent, if the price of sugar rises, and in fact, he cannot get it in the open market but has to purchase it in the black market, or if the prices of the other essential articles rise by 20, 30 or 40 per cent? What the Central Government employees have been saying from 1947 is that if they must be benefited by the small increase that is given by Government, then, certainly, Government must hold the price-line.

The most important things are the holding of the price line and the giving of a need-based minimum wage. In spite of the Home Minister's threat that Government will ban

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strikes and will not allow the employees to do anything, if the Government are not going to do anything to hold the price line and to give them a need-based minimum wage, I am sure the Central Government employees and other sections of the working class will certainly be demoralised and will be frustrated, and then I do not know what they will do.

It is not a question of force or pressure; it is not a question of an Ordinance. The question is of meeting the two main demands. Can the Home Minister say that there is a need based minimum wage as far as the Central Government employees are concerned, according to the First Pay Commission Report? The First Pay Commission Report had definitely indicated what is a poverty-line wage and what is above that.

To these two most important demands, the Government's answer was: no question of talking about a need-based minimum wage and no question of linking the D.A. with the cost of living index. If there is no question of discussing the cost of living index and the rise in that index and linking it with D.A., what is the use of giving D.A.? If the cost of living index goes higher and higher and Government are not able hold the price line, certainly the wages also must increase. If a Central Government employee who bought 50 yards of cloth before wants to buy the same 50 yards of cloth now—with more mouths to feed and more family burden—he must pay six annas per rupee more than he paid last time. Can he afford it? He wants not merely the slogan of a socialist pattern of society. He had been hoping all these 13 years that there would be a rise in his standard of living.

Now he wants to see that his standard of living does not go down. He wants to hold it, and live in the way he used to. That is the reason why these two demands have been put forward. As far as the Second Pay Commission was concerned, they found that it was a planned attack and offensive on their purchasing power, on the existing level of their wages. What is the reason given by the Government for not accepting the demands? As explained by the Home Minister, they say it is an award by a Pay Commission presided over by an honoured Judge and they cannot change the award. I want to ask the Home Minister, what about the Bank Award, what about the Chagla Report and what about other Reports? What about the S.R.C. Report? Government have accepted some recommendations and rejected some recommendations.

In all these bodies presided over by eminent Judges, wherever Government want to accept certain recommendations in their interest, they accept, and wherever they do not want, wherever they want to reject, they reject. They say, 'This is an award; we must respect it and so we cannot make any changes'. If this is true even as far as the Second Pay Commission's Report is concerned, have not the Government made some changes? Why did they make those changes? They made those changes because an award is not something that cannot be changed. After all, the Second Pay Commission was not to take away the rights of the Central Government employees. Unfortunately, in the shape of recommendations, whatever right, the Central Government employees had was taken away from them.

The employees thought that the Second Pay Commission, taking into account the rise in the cost of living and rise in prices, would certainly do something as far as the two important demands were concerned. But they were disappointed because nothing was done.

What did the Government do? Government promulgated an Ordinance. Before the Ordinance was

promulgated, as Shri Naushir Bharucha has explained—I do not want to go into the details—the employees tried their level best to come to a settlement. They waited for the Prime Minister to return from abroad. They decided in June that they would not strike but would discuss the matter with Government, hoping for a settlement. But the Prime Minister on his return did not even talk to them. At least, he should have called them and told them, 'I am not going to discuss these two basic issues; but if there are other issues, certainly we can talk about them.' That is the way of democracy. It is not only in speech that democracy should be there; the question of democracy comes also in the behaviour towards the employees.

So the Central Government employees thought that there was no question of even reopening the two important things. The Government's attitude was: 'You are employees in essential services. So you cannot say anything about what we give you. Whatever your difficulties are, if you tell us we will give you something, and then if you are not satisfied, you must work in the public interest'. This is the answer that the Home Minister has given us.

He says that the economic and social life of the country will be disrupted. Who is disrupting the economic and social life of the country? It is not the Central Government employees who are doing it. It is the profiteer, the black-marketeer and the hoarder—they are there, and the Government are supporting them —who are disrupting the economic and social life of the country. It is they who are responsible for the rise in prices. It is they who are responsible for retarding the progress of the Plan also.

We have seen how in the Second Five Year Plan, because of the increase in prices, the targets of the Plan have had to be cut down. There was no emergency at all. While discussing the Ordinance, it has been pointed out that if the object of the Government was to stop the strike and to see that they were punished, then the Industrial Disputes Act would have been invoked. But there was an Ordinance promulgated. Why? Because Government wanted to break the morale of the Central Government employees; they wanted to break their unions; they wanted them not to make an effort at collective bargaining for their demands. That was the reason why an Ordinance was promulgated.

I do not go into the legal question because I have no time. But as far as the Ordinance is concerned, it is certainly against the Constitution. The fundamental rights given to the employees by the Constitution have been denied to them.

I want to quote here what the Prime Minister said some years ago and what he felt about strikers and black-legs. This is what he said:

> "I was vastly excited, and my sympathies were naturally all on the strikers' side. The collapse of the strike, after a few days, came almost as a personal blow.. I saw the haggard and pinched faces of the men and women and children, and more revealing still, I saw many of the strikers and their wives being tried in the local or county court. One case especially angered me! three or four women, with babies in their arms, were brought up in the dock for the offence of having jeered at the black-legs (now called 'volunteers' in our country)".

This was what he said with reference to the general strike in England in 1926. These are not the follies of youth but the noble sentiments expressed by the Prime Minister.

Shri Goray (Poona): He was not Prime Minister then.

Shri A. K. Gopalan: He was not Prime Minister then. But he has

[Shri A. K. Gopalan]

expressed noble and patriotic sentiments. He said black-legs were called 'volunteers' in our country. I tell him that these are noble sentiments expressed by him about the strikers and he has to treat the strikers in this country accordingly.

Shri Achar (Mangalore): Was it a strike of governmen; servants?

Some Hon. Members: Yes.

Shri Tangamani: Yes, the whole country was affected by it.

Shri A. K. Gopalan: Suppose the workers stopped work for one or two days. I say, more disturbing than stoppage of work by the employees is the calculated, planned assault on the nation's economy by profiteers. It is the Government which have helped them by their failure to hold the price line. To this most important thing, the Government are blind.

If an Ordinance was promulgated to deal with those who are responsible for this increase in prices, the whole people and the Central Government employees would have been behind the Government. Then certainly there would have been no strike. The case of the employees is: 'Either hold the price line—do not give us anything more, if you are able to hold the price line—or if you are not able to hold the price line, give us something so that we may be able to live as before.'

Sir, as I have no time I do not go into the other aspects of the question. During the time of the strike certain things happened. I want to explain them. It was a most peaceful strike. I do not know whether there was any case of violence at all. The Home Minister of Kerala has given an open staement that there was no violent speech there. And, so many other States have stated that there was absolutely no violence. It was a strike in which lakhs and lakhs of people all over India were involved.

The Supreme Court and the L.A.T. have held that mere going on illegal strike does not confer the right on the employer to dismiss the employee. As a model employer, what has Government done? There have been indiscriminate dismissals.

I will give you some instances. In Madras a doctor was arrested. The doctor was coming out of the General Hospital and then the police asked him why he was standing there. He said he was waiting for the bus; but he was taken in the police van to the police station. Somebody saw him and went to the hospital and told the seargent that he was a doctor and he was released. That is what they did

The Ordinance was there. Whom did they arrest? Because the Ordinance was there the police officers and the departmental officers could do everything they liked. In the office of the D.A.G.P. & T, Nagpur they heard that one Viswanathan misbehaved. They passed orders of suspension on one S. Viswanathan. This S. Viswanathan was one who was a very loyal servant. He was a loyal person who did not strike and who attended to his duty. He asked: 'Am I to be punished because I did not go on strike'? There were five Biswanathans there. So, when he complained orders of suspension were passed on all the Viswanathans.

There is another instance. . .

Mr. Speaker: I would like to know from the hon. Member the persons who committed these mistakes did not recognise the identity of the Viswanathan—did they not differentiate between one Viswanathan and the other. Were they not also government employees? (*Interruptions*).

Shri A. K. Gopalan: There was no Viswanathan who went on strike. It was only on suspicion that it was done. Somebody said one Viswanathan was there. So the punishment was given.

Mr. Speaker: The person who gave notice of suspension was also a government employee.

Shri A. K. Gopalan: Yes. I do not say it is the Government. I only show how it leads them to behave because the Ordinance was there and it gave them powers to do as they liked.

Shri T. B. Vittal Rao: They will be promoted tomorrow.

Shri A. K. Gopalan: There is another example of this suspension notice being given. One of the first persons to be arrested was one Nirmal Bhattacharjee, an M.L.C. He is a Professor and an M.L.C. He was one of those persons who were suspended.

Shri C. K. Bhattacharya (West Dinajpur): He happened to be the President of the Union.

An Hon. Member: So, you have the right to suspend him!

Shri C. K. Chattacharya: It is not for nothing that his name has come in.

Shri A. K. Gopalan: Shri Mukundan DET, Telephones, Madurai used abusive words against girls and suspended 4 girls and suspended 6 youths. He abused them in such a way that he was asked to behave properly with the ladies. I do not want to say other things; when they protested they were suspended.

An Hon. Member: Wherefrom?

Shri A. K. Gopalan: Madurai.

As far as the case of Kerala is concerned, there is a Coalition Government. They say there was no victimisation. There was vindictive action In Alwaye there were 36 arrested, 36 convicted and 36 were dismissed. In Palghat there were 232 arrested, 151 convicted, 124 were dismissed; in Calicut, 235 were arrested, 118 cases were pending and 219 were suspended; and everywhere this was the case. About 10,000 people were suspended or dismissed in Calcutta.

I have got a list of these from all the States. Both the State Governments and the Central Government said that they were not going to take vindictive action. But the action of the departmental heads show that even those who did come to their work and who did not strike were punished.

I want to put before some peculiar features of what happened. The police were permitted to withdraw the cases of 216 persons in Trichur but the D.I.T. who was the Special Officer for the strike does not want them to withdraw the case and so these cases are not being withdrawn.

In Poona when the camp was rounded 137 R.M.S. workers were taken by the Police and their radio set was also taken. In Calcutta on the 20th July, a permanent Telephone operator was struck several times by a switchboard by a supervisor; and on complaining the P.T.O. served him with a suspension order. In Indore the permanent employees taken on duty on 15th July 1960 were dismissed on 25th July 1960. No charge-sheet or no show cause notice was served on them. In Nellore all the post offices were closed except the head office; and on 4th July 1960 they were closed on orders issued by the Superintendent and when there was no question of staff going on strike, still one postmaster was suspended. Employees who did not go on strike were also suspended. In Madurai and Kerala very few cases were withdrawn. Out of 1400 cases in Kerala 217 have been convicted and 230 cases have been withdrawn. About 100 girls were arrested. In Kerala cases are still pending.

I am not able to give all the points because I have no time. The effect of the Ordinance was such that it was not merely a question of the government employees going on strike being punished. The departmental heads

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report to the police and the police take action against them and send report to the department and they are taking action then. I want to know from the hon. Home Minister whether there is any truth in the statement that there will be no vindictive attitude adopted? Will all those workers against whom action has been taken be taken back? That is not known.

As far as th strike was concerned there were lathi charges in many places. There are reports that in some places there were secret trials and sureties were threatened and advocates were threatened. In the Ordinance it was said that anybody who gives money to a strike will be punished. Suppose a striker is hungry and you give him money for his food you will be punished.

In Culcutta Y. M. C. A. there was a search of the telephone operators...

Mr. Speaker: I would ask the hon. Member one thing. I have allowed him to refer to a number of cases. How is the hon. Minister or for the matter of that any hon. Minister, to answer these things unless the details are given to him so that he may know them and try to answer them or meet the charges? Have they been sent to him?

Shri G. B. Pant: They have not been sent.

Mr. Speaker: Normally, under our Rules, whenever a reference is made to individual cases, the Minister must be appraised of these cases; otherwise, you are not entitled to raise them.

Shri A. K. Gopalan: Then, will you please allow me to place a record of all these things on the Table of the House so that he may examine them?

Mr. Speaker: No, no.

Shri A. K. Gopalan: I want to tell the hon. Home Minister how these things are happening.

Mr. Speaker: Quite right. But all that I say is that the hon. Member knows the rules. Before he refers to individual cases he must prepare a list of the cases and send them to the Minister so that he may also come prepared to answer or meet the charges. That is all.

Shri A. K. Gopalan: I want to say this. This is a copy of the speech delivered by Shri O. K. Ghosh, Accountant-General, Maharashtra. He said:

> "You must now realise that I can take any disciplinary action I want against those who went on strike. Your fate is in my hands and whatever I do, I will have the support of Delhi."

I want the Home Minister to see that I am not dealing with the cases. I only want to say that as far as the whole strike was concerned, so far as the behaviour of Government during the strike is concerned, this is the picture. This was not a political war against Government; it was not a political struggle; it was an economic struggle. The employees wanted to have bread and butter. The government employee wanted to improve his standard of living.

What did the A.I.R. do? What was the role of the A.I.R. The All India Radio gave news supplied to it but which was not correct. What was its role? It gave false news to the people in this country, saying things which were not happening. In places where the strike took place, it said that there was no strike. Why should the Government stoop to this level? Is not Government responsible for this?

As far as the P.T.I. is concerned, Government gave some information and it was published. The Press Trust of India became the Press Mistrust of India. The whole people had been misled. There is only one national agency in the country and it should not have done like that. The P.T.I.

and the A.I.R. were giving the people false information and did not keep the people informed of what was happening and the Government's aims were thus fulfilled Is this the way to treat the employees? They must be treated with dignity and honour. They have withdrawn the strike. Is this the way in which the departmental heads are to treat the workers?

They say openly that they have got powers and they will do what they like. Is the Government going to leave everything in the hands of the departmental heads? The hon. Home Minister himself has said that the Government wants people to work efficiently. Certainly, if that is so, these things must not be allowed to be done by the departmental heads.

This is not the first time that there has been a strike. In 1946, there was the P. and T. strike. There was no victimisation. The strike went on for three weeks. How is it that the Government wants to be so vindictive this time that there is no sense of dignity or honour when people work in their offices. I want to know whether it is the order of the Government. Shri O. K. Ghosh, the Accountant General of the Maharashtra State says:

> "I am not going to show any leniency to your Association leaders. I will give all of them the ultimate penalty. They have been bravely organising the Strike and now let them bravely take what I give them..... Of course even if somebody is a bad worker, I will give him all consideration if he has not joined the strike...."

I want to know if this is the policy of the Government. Will the Government review the whole thing? I will request the Home Minister to review these actions of the departmental heads. Thousands of people are involved. It is not a hundred or even two hundred. They are suspended and dismissed.

Shri Raghunath Singh (Varanasi): They should be.

Shri A. K. Gopalan: Thousands of people are going to the court. If things are done at this rate, discontent will spread in the country. So, I request the hon. Home Minister to review these cases before the 15th of August.... (*Some Hon. Members:* No) We are celebrating the Independence Day. The employees went on a strike for a cause which they thought dear to them; it was concerned with their life. They went on strike and they have withdrawn the strike. Now, let the Government be magnanimous and let them see that all of them are in their offices before the 15th of August. If this vindictive attitude is continued, it is not good for the country or for our national reconstruction work and it is not good for the people of the country.

सेठ गोविन्द दास (जबलपुर) : अध्यक्ष जी, मैं ने अभी बड़े ध्यान से श्री भरूच जी का भाषण सुना और श्री गोपालन जी का भाषण सुना । भरूचा जी ने अपने भाषण में राष्ट्रपति के अध्यादेश का विरोध किया और मजदूरों की मांगों का समर्थन । साथ ही अपने समर्थन में उन्होंने करेंट के सदृश महान् पत्र के उद्धरण दिए । मैं समझता हूं कि करेन्ट का नाम लेने के बाद अब उन के भाषण के सम्बन्ध में कुछ न ही कहा जाये, तो अच्छा है ।

जहां तक गोपालन जी का सम्बन्ध है, उन्होंने मजदूरों की कुछ मांगों का उल्लेख किया और उन मांगों के कारण इस हड़ताल को उचित बताया । मैं समझता हूं कि जहां तक उन के दल, साम्यवादी दल, का सम्बन्ध है, उन की और उन के दल की सच्ची जन्म भूमि रूस और चीन है । मैं यह जानना चाहता हूं कि ऐसी मांगों के ऊपर यदि रूस और चीन में हड़ताल की बात कही जाती, तो उन बातों के कहने वालों या ऐसे किसी दल की क्या स्थिति होती । वे माने जांय एन्टी-सोशल-और काउंटर-रेवोल्यूशनरी .....

एक माननीय सदस्य : हिन्दी में इस के लिए क्या शब्द है ?

सेठ गोविन्द दास : हिन्दी में यह है — जो समाज के विरुद्ध तत्व हों, जो क्रांति के विरुद्ध तत्व हों .....

डा० राम सुभग सिंह : (सहसराम) : प्रतिक्रियावादी ।

सेठ गोविन्द दास : प्रतिक्रियावादी तत्व। हिन्दी में उनका यह अनुवाद है । मैं अंग्रेजी के इन शब्दों का इसलिये प्रयोग कर रह हूं, जिस से श्री गोपालन जी को ये शब्द समझ में आ जायें।

Shri Tangamani: If you want him to follow your speech, you should speak in English.

सेठ गोविन्द दास : यदि वहां यह सब होता, तो उन की क्या हालत होती, यह मैं उन्हीं से जानना चाहता हूं।

श्री गोपालन जी ने हमारे प्रधान मंत्री के एक कथन का भी उद्धरण दिया, जो किसी दूसरी परिस्थिति में, किसी अन्य समय कहा गया था । उन के उस उद्धरण को सुन कर महकवि मिल्टन के पैराडाइज लास्ट का, जो उन का एक महान् काव्य माना जाता है, एक प्रसंग मुझे स्मरण आ गया । मिल्टन ने पैराडाइज लास्ट में एक जगह लिखा है कि कभी-कभी शैतान भी बाइबल का उद्धरण देते हैं ।

गोपालन जी ने अपने भाषण में यह भी कहा कि यह हड़ताल आर्थिक हड़ताल थी, राजनैतिक हड़ताल नहीं थी। मैं उन से कहना चाहता हूं कि .....

Shri Muhammed Elias (Howrah): On a point of order, is it fair for an hon. Member to say that the Deputy Leader of the Communist Group is a *shaitan*? He has given the example in such a way. It should not be in such a way.

Shri Vajpayee: The hon. Member does not know Hindi.

Shri Muhammed Elias: I can follow Hindi very well. (*Interruptions*).

सेठ गोविन्द दास : उन्होंने उस हड़ताल को आर्थिक हड़ताल बतलाया। अच्छा होता यदि गोपालन जी उस हड़ताल के दौरान में जरा जबलपुर जा कर देखते।

14.29 hrs.

[DR. SUSHILA NAYAR *in the Chair*]

श्री मोहम्मद इलियास : माननीय सदस्य ये सब बातें श्री गोपालन को कह रहे हैं। यदि वह चाहते हैं कि श्री गोपालन उन की बातों को समझें, तो वह अंग्रेजी में बोलें।

Seth Govind Das: I am not giving way.

जबलपुर में हमारे सुरक्षा के कारखाने हैं। यदि गोपालन जी वहां आकर देखते, तो उन को मालूम होता कि यह हड़ताल आर्थिक हड़ताल थी, या राजनैतिक हड़ताल थी।

उन्होंने बार बार गृह मंत्री जी से हड़ताल का मुख्य कारण पूछा । गृह मंत्री जी तो आगे चल शायद उस कारण को बतायेंगे, मैं उन्हें बता देता हूं वह कारण । हड़ताल का मुख्य कारण था उन के दल की गद्दारी के काम । मैं उन को गद्दार नहीं कहता, देश-द्रोही नहीं कहता, ट्रेटर नहीं कहता । किसी को गद्दार, देश-द्रोही या ट्रेटर कहना एक बात है, लेकिन उस के कामों को गद्दारी के काम कहना, देश-द्रोही के काम कहना, और ट्रेटर पने के काम कहना एक अलग बात है । मैं कहना चाहता हूं कि उन के दल का इतिहास इसी प्रकार का इतिहास रहा है । १९४२ के आन्दोलन में उन के दल का यही इतिहास रहा ।

उस के बाद जब चीन का हमारे ऊपर आक्रमण हुआ, उस समय उन के दल का यही इतिहास रहा और इस हड़ताल के अवसर पर भी उन के दल का यही इतिहास रहा । एक कारण तो यह है और दूसरा कारण, अध्यक्ष जी, मैं अपने प्रधान मंत्री, पंडित जवाहरलाल जी को मानता हूं । *(Interruptions)* जी हां, इस हड़ताल का कारण । एक बड़ी बात मैं उन के सामने कह रहा हूं । उन को देख कर मुझे वाल्मीकी जी ने राम यण मे राम का जो वर्णन किया है, वह याद आ जाता है । राम के वर्णन में वाल्मिकी जी ने लिखा है—"वज्रादपि कठोराणि मृदूनि कुसुमादपि" । लेकिन हमारे प्रधान मंत्री जी के सम्बन्ध में "मृदूनि कुसुमादपि" ठीक है, यानी कोमल पुष्पों के सदृश उन का जो रुख है वह रुख ऊपर आ जाता है । अगर उन्होंने अपनी इसी प्रकार की उदारता नीति का स्वराज्य के बाद पालन नहीं किया होता, तो मैं उन से कहना चाहता हूं आप की मर्ज़ी, कि यह हड़ताल नहीं होती । उन्होंने अत्यन्त उदार नीति का पालन किया । हर दल हमारे लिये एक सा है —कांग्रेस दल भी वैसा ही है, कम्यूनिस्ट दल भी वैसा ही है, अमुक दल भी वैसा ही है । इसी का नतीजा है कि हड़ताल हुई । मैं दो कारण इस हड़ताल के मानता हूं —एक कारण हमारे साम्यवादी दल का काम और दूसरा हमारे पंडित जी की उदार नीति ।

मैं ऐसे स्थान से आता हूं, जो सुरक्षा के कारखानों से भरा हुआ है । खमरिया की आर्डिनेंस फ़ैक्टरी हमारे इस देश की ही सब से बड़ी फैक्टरी नहीं है, वह एशिया की सब से बड़ी फ़ैक्टरी है । गन कैरिज फ़ैक्टरी दूसरा कारखाना है और सैंट्रल आर्डिनेंस डिपो तीसरा । हमारे यहां पर सुरक्षा के कारखानों का जाल फैला हुआ है । मैं वर्षों से, जब हमारे महावीर त्यागी जी, जो मेरे पास बैठते हैं और इस समय यहां नहीं हैं सुरक्षा मंत्री थे, उन से कहा करता था, मेनन साहब से कहा करता था, सुरजीत सिंह मजीठिया जी से कहा करता था, रघुरामैया जी से कहा करता था कि इन फ़ैक्टरियों में हमारे इन साम्यवादी लोगों का क्या हाल है और वे हमेशा कहा करते थे कि हमारे लिए तो सब एक से हैं । यह हड़ताल कितनी दूर तक आर्थिक थी और कितनी दूर तक राजनैतिक थी, इस का अनुभव मुझे है, क्योंकि मैं जबलपुर में रहता हूं, जो जबलपुर घिरा हुआ है इस प्रकार के कारखानों से । वहां पर बड़ी बड़ी तैयारियां हुई थीं । सैंट्रल आर्डिनेंस डिपो के सम्बन्ध में खबर आती है कि वह डाइनामाइट किया जाने वाला है और अगर वहां पर आग लगती, तो जबलपुर शहर का भी पता नहीं लगता । हमारे पास धमकी की चिट्ठी आई—तुम्हारे मकान में आग लगा दी जायेगी, ११ तारीख को १२ बज कर एक मिनट पर रात को मैं मार डाला जाऊंगा, न जाने क्या क्या । अतः यह हड़ताल कहां तक आर्थिक थी और कहां तक राजनैतिक, उस का मुझे अनुभव है । सरकार ने कुछ कार्रवाई की और जिसके सम्बन्ध में हमारे गोपालन जी ने इतनी निन्दा की, उस के बारे में, मैं तो सरकार की इस समय की मुलायमियत की कार्रवाई थी, उस को देख कर दंग रह गया । सरकार की कार्यवाही ऐसी हड़ताल के बावजूद भी मुलायम से मुलायम हुई है, अगर रूस या चीन में इस प्रकार की हड़ताल होती या हड़ताल की धमकी दी जाती तो वहां की सरकार क्या कार्रवाई करती, इस पर ज़रा हमारे दोस्त विचार करें *(Interruption)* । सरकार के इस समय के कड़े रुख की, जो थोड़ा बहुत कड़ा रुख रहा है, पूरा कड़ा रुख वह भी नहीं रहा है, मैं भूरि भूरि प्रशंसा करता हूं । जहां तक दूसरे राजनीतिक दलों का सम्बन्ध है, उन में साम्यवादी दल के बारे में मैं ने निवेदन कर दिया है कि दयनीय स्थिति एक दूसरे दल की रही है । आचार्य

[सेठ गोविन्द दास]

कृपालानी जी का मैं बड़ा आदर करता हूं फिर भी मैं समझता हूं कि सब से दयनीय स्थिति उन के दल की रही है। मेरी समझ में नहीं आया कि आखिर प्रजा समाजवादी दल का क्या रुख था उस सारी हड़ताल के मामले में ? अशोक मेहता जी जिनको मैं बड़े आदर की दृष्टि से देखता हूं, एक मुद्दत के बाद तो विलायत से लौटे, लौटते ही बम्बई में एक वक्तव्य झाड़ दिया हमारे प्रधान मंत्री जी के विरोध में, फिर दिल्ली आए, यहां पर न जाने क्या करने के लिये? तो प्रजा समाजवादी दल की जो स्थिति रही उसे मैं अत्यन्त दयनीय स्थिति मानता हूं। क्या स्थिति थी, आखिर तक मेरी समझ में नहीं आया। तो साम्यवादी दल की यह स्थिति, प्रजा समाजवादी दल की यह स्थिति अब महत्वपूर्ण एक कांग्रेस दल मात्र रह गया था, आई० एन० टी० यू० सी०, तो कांग्रेस का ही अंग है। कांग्रेस ने इस देश को स्वराज्य दिलाने का प्रयत्न किया था, उसकी क्या स्थिति रही यह हमें देखना है। यह पंडित जी भी जानते हैं, आप लोग भी जानते हैं और मुझे इस बात का गर्व है कि कांग्रेस जिस प्रकार की देश भक्त संस्था शुरू से रही है, उसी देश भक्ति का उसने परिचय फिर दिया और हड़ताल को यदि नहीं होने दिया तो उसका सारा श्रेय या बहुत दूर तक श्रेय कांग्रेस दल को है। फिर इसका श्रेय इस देश की जनता को भी है।

श्री ब्रजराज सिंह : भी ?

सेठ गोविन्द दास : जी हां, क्योंकि हम तो कांग्रेस दल और जनता में कोई अन्तर नहीं मानते हैं। हम मानते हैं कि कांग्रेस दल ही जनता है और जनता ही कांग्रेस दल है।

जहां तक जनता का सम्बन्ध है, हमारे गृह मंत्री जी ने अभी बताया कि जनता का किस प्रकार सहयोग रहा। यह भी कहा जाता है कि हड़ताल वापिस ले ली गई। यह बात सुन कर मुझे एक कहावत याद आती है --रिपट पड़े तो हर गंगा। जब हड़ताल खत्म हो गई थी, तो वापिस लेने का प्रश्न ही कहां था, मेरी समझ में नहीं आया। और अब इस बात पर कि हड़ताल वापिस ले ली गई, हड़तालियों से अच्छे सलूक की, मुलायमियत के सलूक की बार-बार अपील करना, इस में मुझे बड़ा भय दिखाई देता है और यह भय मुझे सब से अधिक पंडित जी से है। पंडित जी की मुलायमियत की, उदारता की जो नीति रही है, वही यदि फिर हुई तो भविष्य में मुझे बड़ा भारी खतरा नजर आता है।

मेरे इस सम्बन्ध में कुछ सुझाव हैं। भरूचा जी ने कुछ सुझाव रखे हैं और कुछ सुझाव मैं भी रखना चाहता हूं। भरूचा जी के प्रत्येक सुझाव का मैं विरोध करता हूं, तहे दिल से विरोध करता हूं और अपनी ओर से कुछ एक सुझाव रखना चाहता हूं। पहला सुझाव मेरा यह है कि जरूरी नौकरियों के अन्दर हड़ताल अवैध कर दी जाए और इस सम्बन्ध में कानून बना दिया जाए जो शायद बन भी जाएगा, ऐसी मुझे आशा है। वह कानून कितना सख्त बनता है, यह प्रश्न है। वह सख्त से सख्त कानून बनना चाहिये।

दूसरा मेरा यह कहना है कि सुरक्षा के कारखानों में जो मजदूर संघ हैं, लेबर यूनियंस हैं, उनको सरकार न माने (*Interruption*) सुरक्षा के कारखानों के जो मजदूर संघ हैं, लेबर यूनियंस हैं, उनकी और दूसरे कारखानों में जो लेबर यूनियन हैं, उनकी अलग अलग अवस्थायें हैं। हमारे देश में स्वराज्य के बाद से सब से आवश्यक विषय हमारे देश की सुरक्षा का है और सुरक्षा के कारखानों में, इन लेबर यूनियंस को,

इन मजदूर संघों को कभी मान्यता नहीं दी जान चाहिये . . .

श्री ब्रज राज सिंह : काशी नाथ पांडे जी वाली को भी नहीं ?

सेठ गोविन्द दास : तीसरा मेरा कहना यह है कि जिन्होंने हड़ताल में भाग लिया, आज वे बड़ी अपीलें कर रहे हैं, बड़े निवेदन कर रहे हैं । लेकिन उनके हृदय में क्या है, यह हम जानते हैं । उनके प्रति यदि किसी प्रकार की मुलायमियत का बरताव हुआ तो यह उनके प्रति अन्याय होगा जिन्होंने किसी बात की भी परवा न करके देश का साथ दिया, सरकार का साथ दिया । हड़ताल करने वालों के साथ मुलायमियत का व्यवहार उन लोगों के प्रति अन्याय है जिन्होंने इस हड़ताल के मौके पर हमारा और सरकार का साथ दिया । इसलिये उनके साथ कड़े से कड़ा व्यवहार होना चाहिये और उनके साथ किसी प्रकार की मुलायमियत का व्यवहार नहीं होना चाहिये ।

मैं एक बात और कहना चाहता हूं । प्रजातंत्र के रहते हुए, यहां मिनिस्टरी रहते हुये, अगर अभी से हम ने इन बातों के ऊपर ध्यान नहीं रखा तो बालिग मताधिकार तो बरकरार रहेगा, हम लोग चुने हुए लोग यहां बैठे रहेंगे, मिनिस्टरी भी बैठी रहेगी, लेकिन मिनिस्टरी के बैठे रहते हुए भी, मिनिस्टरी का खात्मा हो जाएगा और प्रजातंत्र की समाप्ति हो जाएगी, इसलिये बहुत बड़ा खतरा है जिस की तरफ मैं आपका ध्यान आकर्षित करना चाहता हूं ।

लेकिन इन सब बातों के साथ साथ मैं यह भी निवेदन करना चाहता हूं कि मजदूरों की जो उचित मांगें हैं, उनके जो उचित कष्ट हैं, उनकी तरफ भी ध्यान दिया जाना चाहिये । मैं हमेशा खमरिया की निसबत और हमारे यहां की जो-जो दूसरी फैक्ट्रियां हैं, उनकी निसबत कहा करता हूं । मैंने अभी कुछ दिन पहले सरदार सुरजीत सिंह मजीठिया को वहां बुलाया था, मैंने श्री रघुरामैया को भी बुलाया था । वहां पर कुछ जगह ऐसी अवस्था है कि मजदूरों के लिए रहने के लिये न अच्छे घर हैं, न उन घरों में रोशनी है । उन घरों को जाने के लिये जो सड़कें हैं उनमें बत्ती नहीं है । उनमें गड्ढे हैं जिन में बरसात के दिनों में लोग गिर पड़ते हैं । इन सब में सुधार होना आवश्यक है । खमरिया फैक्ट्री में जो मजदूर काम करते हैं, उनके लिये शिक्षा का कोई समुचित प्रबन्ध नहीं है । हजारों लड़के वहां पर बिना शिक्षा जा रहे हैं । खमरिया फैक्ट्री जबलपुर से बहुत दूर है और लड़के जबलपुर आ कर नहीं पढ़ सकते । इसलिये वहां पर कम से कम प्राथमिक शिक्षा का प्रबन्ध होना चाहिये । वहां के जो अस्पताल हैं उनकी खराब हालत है, उसकी तरफ आपका ध्यान जाना चाहिये । इस प्रकार के जो मजदूरों के कष्ट हैं, वे केवल जबलपुर में हैं या खमरिया फैक्ट्री में हैं, यह मेरा कथन नहीं है, अनेक स्थानों पर हैं । उस तरफ पूरा पूरा ध्यान देना आवश्यक है ।

जहां तक वेतन वृद्धि का सवाल है, मैं कहना चाहता हूं कि वेतन वृद्धि जो मजदूर खेतों पर काम करते हैं, उनकी तरफ देख कर की जाए । यह नहीं कि शहरों के और सरकार के जो कर्मचारी हैं उनको तो अन्धाधुन्ध वेतन मिलें, महंगाई भत्ता मिले, दूसरे भत्ते मिलें, सब कुछ मिले और उनके अनुपात से जो खेतों में काम करते हैं उनके वेतन बहुत कम हो जाएं . . .

श्री मोहम्मद इलियास : आप इतना क्यों लेते हैं ?

सेठ गोविन्द दास : हमारे देश में जो गरीबी है, उस गरीबी की तरफ ध्यान दे कर, जो सौ में से अस्सी व्यक्ति गांव में रहते हैं, खेती पर निर्भर करते हैं, उनकी क्या आय है, उस तरफ ध्यान दे कर, महंगाई के और वेतन वृद्धि के सारे मामले को देखा जाए । यह एक तरफ न हो जाए, सन्तुलित रहे ।

अन्त में मेरा आप से यह निवेदन है कि इस समय जो निर्माण का काम चला हुआ है, इस समय जब कि चीन का हमारे देश पर आक्रमण हुआ है, इस प्रकार के जो काम हैं, हड़ताल के या इस प्रकार के दूसरे काम, उनकी तरफ हमें बड़े ध्यान से देखना होगा, पूरी कड़ाई के रुख से हम को काम करना होगा । इस सम्बन्ध में आपकी मार्फत मैं पंडित जी से विशेष रूप से निवेदन करना चाहता हूं कि उनका जो "मृदूनि कुसुमादपि" का रुख हमेशा रहता है उसका स्थान थोड़ा "वज्रादपि कठोराणि" वाली नीति को लेना होगा । साथ ही जो हमारे मजदूरों की उचित मांगें हैं, जो उनकी तकलीफें हैं, उनको भी दूर करना होगा । तभी यह मामला निपट सकेगा ।

इन शब्दों के साथ मैं भरूचा जी के प्रस्ताव का विरोध करता हूं और सरकार ने इस समय जिस नीति का अवलम्बन किया है, उसका हृदय से समर्थन करता हूं ।

Shri A. P. Jain (Saharanpur): Madam Chairman, the hon. Member Shri A. K. Gopalan asked a question from the Home Minister as to why the Government servants had gone on strike. He said that it indicated a want of confidence on the part of the Government employees in the Government, it also indicated a sense of dissatisfaction. Now, if I were to answer his question, I will say that the entire speech of Shri Gopalan explains how the Government employees were persuaded by certain politicians and political parties to go on strike. Even so, it was only a part of the Government servants, not more than 20 per cent. of the entire force, who gave notice of strike.

Shri Gopalan in his speech referred to two major demands, namely, dearness allowance and the need-based minimum wage. The Prime Minister in his broadcast has made it clear that the financial implications of these two demands are of the order of about Rs. 700 crores to Rs. 750 crores in the Third Five Year Plan. Now, any political party or any politician who ignores the paying capacity of the Government and bases the demand on one-sided or absolute considerations would be held responsible of not taking recognition of the real situation.

Now, these two demands have a history behind them. It has been stated in this House both by the Home Minister and others that in 1957 a strike notice was given, that strike notice was withdrawn and the Pay Commission was appointed. Both the Government and the employees agreed to the appointment of the Pay Commission. The very fact that the strike notice was withdrawn indicates an implicit or may I say an express acceptance of, you may call it, the verdict, award or recommendations of the Pay Commission as a solution of the dispute.

Both these matters, that is, the question of dearness allowance and how it should be neutralised as also the question of the need-based minimum wages were urged by the employees' representatives before the Pay Commission. The Pay Commission after taking into account the paying capacity of the Government and the financial implications of demands came to the conclusion that neither of those pleas of the employees could be accepted. The plea of the employees with regard to dearness allowance was that when there is a

rise in the cost of living index, which was accepted at 115 for the basic purposes, then the rise should be neutralised by an increase in the dearness allowance. That principle was not accepted by the Pay Commission. The Pay Commission recommended that if during a period of twelve months the rise in the cost of living index was of the order of ten points over 115, in that case the Government should take up that question and try to neutralise the rise in the cost of living to the best possible extent. The Pay Commission further expected that the Government would take such action, as would not allow the standard of living of the low wage group to be adversely affected.

Now, that was one part of it. So far as the need-based minimum wage was concerned, the Commission refused to accept what was decided at the 15th Labour Conference. They made an enquiry from the Government as to whether it had accepted the recommendations of the 15th Labour Conference in regard to need-based minimum wage, and the Government replied that they were not committed to it. But the effect of, what I have said, namely, that these two pleas were urged before the Pay Commission and the Pay Commission did not find it possible to accept them, would mean that the employees had lost their case on those issues.

Then, Madam, what is the justification for raising up those pleas again, because it is this justification which will determine whether this strike was a labour strike, an industrial dispute, or it was something more, a political dispute, something out of which the political parties wanted to cash political advantages?

Now, this award was not accepted. Let us examine it from another point of view. Madam, I have got here a pamphlet issued by the Hind Mazdoor Sabha on the strike. It has been issued by the President of the Hind Mazdoor Sabha. It lays down what I consider to be a very reasonable criterion for judging whether the strike was a labour dispute, an industrial dispute, or it had some political motives behind it. I will read out a portion from this pamphlet. On page 3 it says:

> "....the terms of this dispute should be of such a character as is impossible for Government to concede, and that the efforts for a negotiated settlement must be conducted in such a manner as to make it impossible for the strikers and Government to find a common measure of agreement."

So, these are the two conditions.

Shri Asoka Mehta: Will the hon. Member please read the whole paragraph?

Shri A. P. Jain: I will read it out. It says:

> "If there is an attempt to stage a 'civil rebellion' and 'upset civil authority' through the medium of a trade union dispute then it stands to reason that the terms of this dispute should be of such a character as is impossible for Government to concede,...."

That is one criterion.

Shri Raghunath Singh: That is quite clear.

Shri A. P. Jain: The other criterion is:

> "and that the efforts for a negotiated settlement must be conducted in such a manner as to make it impossible for the strikers and Government to find a common measure of agreement."

This is the second condition.

Shri Vajpayee: But the facts are otherwise.

Shri A. P. Jain: The hon. Member should have a little patience.

Shri Raghunath Singh: It is very clear. It is a counter-revolution.

Shri A. P. Jain: It is clear that the Hind Mazdoor Sabha itself admits that if these two criteria are satisfied, then it would be a civil rebellion. Let us see the first thing. I have already stated that the financial implications of the acceptance of these two demands, namely, the dearness allowance and the need-based minimum wage, would be of the order of Rs. 700 crores. Can the Government pay this sum? The Pay Commission has come to the finding that for some years past the Government budget has been deficit and if there is an additional burden imposed on the Government's resources, on account of the increase in pay and wages, then fresh taxation will have to be imposed. We have also the broad outline of the Third Five Year Plan. It also indicates the need for heavy taxation, both by the Central Government and by the State Governments for developmental purposes. So, it is obvious that the demand made on behalf of the workers was a political demand, an impossible demand, which the Government could not fulfil; and therefore, the first criterion is satisfied.

Now, let us come to the second criterion. The Joint Council of Action wrote to the Prime Minister that they wanted to see him. They wrote on the 10th June, 1960. The Prime Minister wrote back to the effect that this action, the formation of the Joint Council of Action, would come further in the way of the Prime Minister meeting any deputation on the subject. But what happened later on? The Government made a retreat; they wanted to accommodate the employees.

Shri Tyagi (Dehra Dun): That was a mistake.

Shri A. P. Jain: It may have been a mistake or it may have been an exhibition of friendliness and goodwill. The Labour Minister met this very Joint Council of Action, discussed the dispute with its representatives and wanted to come to a compromise. Not only that. He went further than what the Pay Commission had recommended with regard to the dearness allowance. What was it that he accepted? He accepted Shri Feroze Gandhi's formula which was somewhat like this: in case during a period of twelve months, the cost of living index, treating 115 as the base, went up by ten points, then the Government will neutralise 50 per cent. of the rise in the cost of living index. Further, any rise over and above 50 per cent. will be submitted to an arbitrator and his award will be acceptable to the Government. What more did they want?

Shri Naushir Bharucha: He says, "No."

Shri A. P. Jain: He says it is correct. What more could the Government do in the circumstances? After all, the resources of the Government are limited and when there is a dispute between the employer and the employee, the matter goes to arbitration. Therefore, I submit that if you look at it from either of the two criteria, it will be clear that they had placed an impossible demand and they were not amenable to reason.

Shri S. M. Banerjee: What was the impossible demand?

Shri A. P. Jain: I have explained it already. If you were not here, I cannot help it.

Mr. Chairman: Shri S. M. Banerjee will have his chance to speak. Let him wait.

Shri A. P. Jain: Let us take another aspect of the problem. In the pamphlet from which I quoted, I find another statement. It says at page 3:

> "If a part of the leadership of the J.C.A. reflected certain political associations it was merely accidental."

How did these politicians drop in? Was it from that they dropped from Heavens or were pulled out from the jack box? There were ten members of the standing committee of the Joint Council of Action. What is the composition? Six of them are not Government employees.

Shri S. M. Banerjee: Ex-Government employees.

Shri A. P. Jain: Only four of them are Government employees. A number of them, practically 50 per cent, are politicians. What happened was this. The politicians or the political parties wanted to cash political advantage. They found out the device of a joint council, because under the Government servants' association rules,—outsiders could not be members of the Government servants' associations. But outsiders could find a place in the unions of Railways, Posts and Telegraphs and industrial units. So, they found out this device to come in through the joint council of action. They came in there and they got the control of activities, some were operating from behind; some others were operating on the front, with the result that this strike ceased to be a strike by Government servants and became a political strike in the fullest sense of the term. It had to be dealt with as a political strike.

Is that not a justification for the promulgation of the ordinance? The Indian Industrial Disputes Act is there. Section 10 of that Act deals with strikes in the essential services. But is this a labour strike? That is the question before us. The House has to decide whether it was an industrial dispute. From what I have stated, from the circumstances of the case, from the manner in which it was conducted, it is clear that it was not an industrial dispute, and therefore, it had to be dealt with in a comprehensive manner and effectively.

On this question, I would like to quote my hon. friend Shri Asoka Mehta. He said that a strike of this nature is short and swift. If it ends in success, it ends in success in a short time, or it fails. That is what happened. The strike could not gather force. The Government employees soon realised that they should fight the people of India, and that it was a strike against the people of India. Therefore, the majority of them—four-fifths of them—did not respond to the call for strike, and even those who responded to the call soon felt that it was wrong on their part that they should have become a victim of certain manipulations and certain devices and therefore they withdrew.

The intentions of the political parties must be judged from the attitude they took when the strike began, and not from what they subsequently did. They became shaky when they found that they had not adequate strength behind them. One of the pleas urged in this pamphlet is that, they gave up the issue for need-based wages. They did so because they did not find support for it. If I do an action, my intention will be judged by the motives that actuated me at the time when I started the action, and not by the subsequent events. If it is to be judged by a subsequent action, at one stage, the I.C.A. withdrew the strike unconditionally. Does it mean that there was no demand? That cannot be the position. Before they took a final decision to go on strike, the position was very clear. I.C.A. insisted on the neutralisation of the increase in the cost of living whenever the cost of living went up and on the need-based wages, worked out on the basis of the fifth labour conference. If these two conditions are treated as basic, then it was an impossible demand. I must congratulate the Governments both at the Centre and in the States, on the effective manner in which they have handled the strike situation. I am not going to deny that there may have been cases of excess here or there. Some officer of the Government may have been carried away by over-enthusiasm. When

[Shri A. P. Jain]

things happen on such a vast scale, no Government can guarantee that there are not exceptional cases of excesses. But the broad fact is that generally a policy of moderation and of dealing with the situation with the minimum force was followed.

I must also pay a tribute to those Government servants—80 per cent. of them—who were not led away by other political parties and who stuck to their work. I must pay a tribute to the Indian National Trade Union Congress.....

Shri Nath Pai: Now the cat is out of the bag. (*Interruptions*).

Shri A. P. Jain: ....who realised the correct implications of the strike and refused to fall in line with people who were trying to disrupt the social structure of the country. I pay my tribute to the hundreds of thousands of people who volunteered their services and said openly that the strike was wrong.

It is for the first time, as the Home Minister said, since India became independent, that the nation as a whole rose against the disruptive activities of certain political parties. That is a good sign.

Shri Nath Pai: The Home Minister never said that.

Shri A. P. Jain: It requires a little understanding to appreciate what the Home Minister said.

I come to the last point. What should be the attitude of the Government now? The Home Minister said that the Government would not be vindictive. I wholly endorse it. After all, against whom are you going to be vindictive? This is in the nature of a home quarrel or what might be called a civil dispute. I would not call it a civil war, but a civil dispute. The Government and its employees will continue to work together and anything which leaves a feeling of recrimination or bitterness will not be a good thing. Therefore, on the whole, the approach must be a friendly approach, an approach of forgiving those people who were misled. Yet, there may be a certain type of people who deliberately took part either in sabotage or in violence or who deliberately wanted to instigate the strike and disrupt the social structure. They will have to be dealt with on a different level, because no one should get the impression that he can escape free after indulging in all kinds of anti-social work.

With regard to unions, so far as the Civil Servants Associations are concerned, politicians and outsiders cannot become members. That rule is good, but there is a little lacuna in it, as they can overcome the general rule by creating the joint council of action. I think it is time Government may apply its mind; and plug this loophole. That is, these associations should not indirectly be allowed to be associated with or become a tool of political parties.

The present position with regard to essential services is that railways, posts and telegraphs, ordnance factories and some other departments were by ordinance declared to be essential services. I wholly endorse the action of Government in declaring them as essential services, because otherwise, it would have led to serious trouble including the disruption of the society. The position is that recognition of these unions who went on illegal strike has been withdrawn. But essential services are, after all, industrial concerns and it will not be good on the part of Government to deny recognition to these unions permanently, if they make necessary amends. If they could not make amends, new unions should be created. Unions must be there in industrial enterprises, so that they may present their collective views before the Government.

Shri Tangamani: Government cannot create unions.

Shri A. P. Jain: Workers themselves will create, not that we will create unions and they should be recognised. The position is clear. If these unions which misbehaved in the past make amends, if they agree to abide by law, then the withdrawal of recognition may be reversed. If, on the other hand, they insist that they have a right to go on illegal strike, let other unions be created and let them be recognised. That is the position for which I am urging. But the politicians must be kept out of these unions, whether they are Congressmen or Communists or PSP members. They should not be allowed to enter those unions. These unions should have no right to go on strike, but then it is necessary to provide a machinery for negotiations and conciliation and arbitration because, after all, you cannot refuse to redress the legitimate grievances of workers. You have to remove them.

There may arise the question whether the Government should abrogate its right of sovereignty and accept the award just as it is binding on a private employer and employee. I think ordinarily no Government or sovereign body can abrogate its right of taking ultimate decisions, but there are ways in which this ultimate right can be exercised. For instance, if there is a perverse or dishonest award, let that award come before Parliament, so that Parliament may refer it back to another tribunal and see that a proper award is given. There must be an assurance in the mind of the labour that the Government will abide by all reasonable awards.

Now I come to 17,000 or 19,000 employees who have been arrested. Everybody, who has been arrested, was not necessarily guilty of serious offence. There are those who were guilty of serious offences and there are those who were not so guilty. It will not do good to anybody to punish a small man—a postman, clerk or chaprasi—who may have been misled, unless he was guilty of sabotage or violence or anything of the kind. Ordinarily, these small men must be shown considerable leniency and serious punishment or prosecution should be confined only to those who have been guilty of sabotage, violence or gross misbehaviour or to those who have instigated or prompted the strike. With the exception of these classes—their number should not be large—the cases against others must be withdrawn.

Therefore, the policy of the Government should be that while it should not adopt an attitude, which may encourage the recurrence or the repetition of what has happened in the past, at the same time, it must be one of moderation and liberality towards its employees.

Shri Asoka Mehta: Madam Chairman, it is with a certain amount of reluctance that I participate in this discussion, partly because I have said quite a lot about this outside this House before and partly because I find myself out of tune with the general trend of discussions in the House. I feel that a situation which is already somewhat complicated, which needs to be handled with care and understanding, is sought to be made more difficult by importing into it not only heat of eloquence but heat of political antagonism. I was surprised that so senior a Member of this House as my hon. friend, Shri Ajit Prasad Jain should have said that this was a political strike....

Some Hon. Members: Shame, shame.

An Hon. Member: It was a lie.

Shri Nath Pai: That is a white lie.

Shri Asoka Mehta: ....a political strike in which the Praja Socialist Party, of which I have the privilege to be the Chairman, was directly and deliberately involved. I repudiate that suggestion with all the sincerity and all the integrity at my command.

[Shri Asoka Mehta]

(*Interruptions*). Madam Chairman, either I am going to be listened to or I am not interested in speaking. I have not said one word which would hurt others' feelings. However, in this House serious charges have been hurled against my party and so either this House will give me an opportunity to clear those charges, or I am not interested in speaking at all.

Madam Chairman, take the Praja Socialist Party. There are some members of the party, distinguished members of the party, occupying important positions in the trade unions, who have been occupying important positions for a long time. They discharged their responsibilities as the trade unions advised them to do. There are other members of the Praja Socialist Party, equally distinguished, who occupy important positions in the administration, at least in one State of India. They also discharged the responsibilities in the administration as they were expected to do. I hope Shri Ajit Prasad Jain knows this much, if it were the deliberate policy of the Praja Socialist Party to create a civil rebellion in the country I would not have been out of the country and I have that moral courage to be in the country to lead that civil rebellion if it is decided upon, nor my colleagues in one of the States of India would have carried out the responsibilities with that firmness of purpose and that loyalty to their offices and to their responsibilities that they showed. And I have not asked, my party has not asked, for any explanation from them. I am sorry that such a good friend of mine as Shri Ajit Prasad Jain should have made an innuendo that I returned from abroad and finding that the strike was fizzling out I sought to salvage the lost situation.

Shri A. P. Jain: I did not say that. I said that you took a different attitude.

Shri Asoka Mehta: You did.

Shri A. P. Jain: I said that after you returned you modified it.

Shri Asoka Mehta: I am prepared to face any kind of scrutiny, but I would beg of him not to indulge in innuendos of this kind. I repeat once again that this was not a political strike, this was a strike in which the Praja Socialist Party was not interested one way or the other, this was a trade union strike and I dare anyone to challenge that statement with facts, not with innuendos.

Shri C. K. Nair (Outer Delhi): Have you got a hand in it? I want a clarification.

Mr. Chairman: Order, order. That he can do when his chance comes, if need be.

Shri Asoka Mehta: I would like to point out—the Prime Minister is here; he has shown great understanding in this matter and it is to him that I am expressing the next few words and I know that he will not misunderstand me; I do not know about the other sections of the House. In the last 12 or 13 years unfortunately we have not handled our industrial relations with our employees in the manner in which we should have done. After the first Pay Commission, you are well aware, Madam, not only the real wages of the Government employees have not increased by a single Naya Paisa but out of 13 years for 11 years the real wages went down and, therefore, there was the question of dearness allowance. There was no question of giving them more pay. It was a question of maintaining the standard of living that had been given to them in 1947.

In the first Pay Commission's Report two things were suggested among various other things. One was a formula whereby the dearness allowance was to be calculated. Secondly, there was a suggestion that there must be a machinery whereby disputes can be settled. Neither of these two things

was implemented and not only was that formula not accepted but no alternative formula was evolved. And what was the result? In 1948 the shortfall in the real wages of the workers was to the extent of Rs. 12 or 20 per cent. I am quoting from the *Eastern Economist*, which is not a friendly journal to the strikers—which means that if you look at the income that the lowest paid State Government employees were getting, the erosion in the meagre standard of living was to the extent of 22 per cent. They had to give a notice of strike in order that any attention would be paid to their demands. Again in 1951 and again in 1957 strike notices had to be given. Even this Pay Commission was appointed only when a notice of strike was given. I say this is a bad thing. We taught our employees, we created in them the habit that the Government is likely to move or respond only when they give notice of strike. We taught them the policy of brinkmanship, and the Government also responded only when they found they were confronted by strike notice. If the Government on the one side and the trade unions on the other get into the habit of pursuing the policy of brinkmanship, some time or other one or the other is likely to tumble over the brink. And this is something which has happened in other countries also.

Madam, may I invite your attention to what happened in the United Kingdom in 1926? I am quoting from a very objective record, the *Annual Register* of 1926 of the United Kingdom:

> "A great majority of the responsible trade union leaders were personally strongly averse to such an extreme course. They thought, no doubt, that the Government would shrink from the challenge as it had shrunk in previous July (1925). In this they miscalculated. The truth was that in the Government also there was a section, no less eager than the militant trade unionists for a trial of strength, and these saw to it that the strike menace should be carried out, little as this was desired by those who launched it."

There was this tragic miscalculation in England in 1926 and there was the tragic miscalculation in India in 1960. These tragedies can be averted only if we are going to set up a machinery and if we are going to show some alertness in this matter.

What happened? I was surprised that during the last few days only when the Prime Minister himself began to take interest in the matter serious efforts were made to find out what were the grievances of the employees and how to settle them. Till then the various Ministries were sitting tight but then they started working day and night and one particular Ministry not only worked out the new scales of wages but rushed them to the various establishments by aeroplane. Now, it is very creditable that this was done. But why was it not done earlier? Why was the spirit not created, why was the assurance not created that it is not necessary, as far as this Government is concerned, for anyone to threaten with strike notice? Why was there not the kind of machinery whereby these things could be settled? The Prime Minister himself, on more than one occasion, has stated that this is something which has to be corrected. All that I am saying is that when we sit in judgment over the strikers we have got to recognize this, the accentuating circumstances. I have no desire to condemn the Government but because the strikers are sought to be condemned—I am not happy about many things but I would say this—before we condemn, if we want to improve certain things we must realise that the Government and the Parliament were also responsible for a situation where this kind of miscalculations could take place.

Secondly, how many people gave strike notice? According to Government's own figures 133 unions gave strike notices, having a total

[Shri Asoka Mehta]

membership of 5,57,338, which means the strike notice was given by less than 25 per cent of the employees.

Therefore whether just 25 per cent of the employees could have created a civilian rebellion is a matter that needs to be carefully considered.

When it is said that 80 per cent did not go on strike, may I point out that 75 per cent. had from the very beginning declared that they were not interested in the strike? Only less than 25 per cent had given the strike notice. I do not know how many people went on strike. The Government's figures are two lakhs and odd, which means that even of those who gave the notice only 50 per cent. went on strike. Was this in the nature of a civilian rebellion?

Let us remember that as far as the dearness allowance is concerned, except when my hon. friend, Shri Feroze Gandhi came on the scene—all honour to him; I am proud of the fact that there are non-official hon. Members in this House who are capable of playing such a vital, such a courageous and such a decisive role in solving the problems of our country—it was only when he stepped in that a formula was evolved. Whether that formula is satisfactory or not is another matter. I will go into that in a minute. But why is it that all these years, for eleven years out of 13 years the real wages of the workers pegged at 1947 level had been eroded by as much as Rs. 12 to the maximum and by as little as Rs. 3 to the minimum? For eleven out of thirteen years these people have suffered a chronic erosion of their meagre standard of living. Surely something should have been done about it. It was done only when Shri Feroze Gandhi stepped into the picture. Unfortunately because of some misunderstandings, it appeared to be something too late.

There was this question of a need-based wage. Some years back the Government of India had done me the honour of appointing me to a Fair Wages Committee. At that time we formulated certain principles of fair wages. We deliberately refrained from quantifying those principles because, I believe, the moment you try to quantify these things you get into all kinds of difficulties. I had told the hon. Labour Minister after I had learnt about the conclusions reached by the Fifteenth Labour Conference that any quantification is likely to create all kinds of difficulties. I had told over and over again my trade union friends that this is a demand which cannot be put forward very lightly. I believe it was as a result of a constant pressure which I had exercised on my trade union friends that they ultimately said, "All we want is that the Government should give an assurance that they will move in this direction." That assurance, of course, should always be there, namely, that we want to move towards a need-based wage.

I believe Shri A. P. Jain was not correct when he said that Rs. 700 crores were demanded by them. If they demanded that, I will be with him in saying that it is not a legitimate demand. But you cannot dismiss that demand without at the same time conceding, and conceding decisively, their right to have adequate dearness allowance. I cannot understand how the Government can say, "We will give 50 per cent.". Why should they suffer? Their standard of life is pegged only to 1947 income. After that we have had two Plans. The national income has increased by 42 per cent. Surely the least we can do to them is to see that their standard of life will not be depressed any further. I cannot understand the hon. Home Minister saying that it is even now only 50 per cent. Shri Feroze Gandhi's formula was minimum 50 per cent; now it has become just 50 per cent.

Shri Feroze Gandhi (Rae Bareli): National income has increased by 42 per cent. during 1951—61. There is still a gap between 1947 and 1951.

Shri Asoka Mehta: It was a period of war damage and rehabilitation. I do not want to take advantage of that period. But during the two Plan periods, the national income has gone up by 42 per cent.

It is not that after the strike failed that they withdrew this demand for a need-based wage. This demand for need-based wage, I am told by Shri Nath Pai—I was not here; he will clarify the position—was given up even before the strike action was taken. Probably there Shri Feroze Gandhi will be in a better position to enlighten us because he was in the midst of it. The crucial question is how and in what manner will this dearness allowance be given. Cost of living indices come up only after three, four or five months. First there has got to be a period of twelve months. Then there has to be an average rise of ten points—not just ten points but an average rise of ten points. That means that if in some months it has been only six points there must be other months where it has been 14 points. It has to be an average rise of ten points. It will become apparent only after 16 or 18 months when the cost of living indices are available. How are these people to live? I would like to find out that. Is this ten point something sacrosanct?

15.25 hrs.

[SHRI MULCHAND DUBE *in the Chair*].

If there is a perceptible and significant increase which is going to erode in their cost of living, Government should be willing to respond. I have no doubt in my mind that the hon. Prime Minister, if he has the time and whenever he has the time and he has sought to apply his mind to the question, has always responded to in a manner in which the employees want him to respond. Therefore I am pained to find that from the Congress Benches he is being told, "Do not be what you are. Be what we want you to be." I think it will be a tragedy for the country when the hon. Prime Minister has to shape himself into a distorted image.

Then this Ordinance was there. What happened during the strike, how the Ordinance was used—I have no desire to go into all that. But may I point out that I was somewhat surprised—perhaps the hon. Prime Minister must have received this information—when I got this telegram from Rajkot, namely,—

> "Deeply shocked at the arrest of Editor Jai Hind Daily Rajkot under Ordinance after three weeks of employees' strike withdrawn. Proprietor and Bhavnagar Correspondent earlier arrested."

I do not know how the Ordinance could be used after three weeks to arrest an editor of a newspaper.

Again, I have no desire to give you here all kinds of harrowing accounts of what happened. In matters like this people suffer. Probably there was suffering on both sides. I do not know. I am not going therefore to say that there was suffering and you were responsible for that suffering. But we have to realise what is happening. I find that in one particular office of the Government—I will not name what that office is—one Shri T. Vishwanathan was to be suspended. Unfortunately, the notice was served on another Shri T. Vishwanathan, who was a loyal worker.... (*Interruption*). Then when they found that there were six T. Vishwanathans in that office, orders were issued that all the six T. Vishwanathans should be forthwith served with notices of suspension. As I said, I will not mention where it happened and what this office is. But this kind of a thing.....

The Deputy Minister of Finance (Shri B. R. Bhagat): Five or six?

Shri Asoka Mehta: May be five; may be six; may be four. I do not know. I do not want to waste my time on that.

[Shri Asoka Mehta]

Then I take the question of bail. Whether people went on strike, whether that was right or wrong, whether in essential services people should have the right to go on strike or not, they are different questions. But the point is: Is it necessary to demand a bail of Rs. 10,000 or Rs. 20,000 before a person is released? That has happened in Bihar. It may be one case, but I am told—again, I have not been able to check up everything because it is impossible to check up everything; but if this is wrong I will be very happy . . .

Shrimati Renu Chakravartty (Basirhat): They were handcuffed also.

Shri Asoka Mehta: Because the hon. Prime Minister used the expression civil rebellion—I do not know in what context did he use it—suddenly the whole machinery reacted in that manner. The hon. Prime Minister, I do not think, conceived of it as a civil rebellion which had to be crushed. But people down below thought that the green signal had been given. That is the reason why in the post-strike period it is absolutely necessary that we are very careful in seeing that the damage that has been done is undone.

What is happening? There is automatic break in service. Again, orders are being issued from time to time. Things may have improved. I do not know. But I am told that there are automatic breaks in services in certain departments. What would be the result of this automatic break? They lose not only all their accumulated leave, but they lose all the leave to which they are entitled when they retire. They lose heavily as far as their provident fund and their gratuity are concerned, as also they lose their seniority. To what extent is the person to be penalised assuming that he went on a strike which was wrong? What is going to be the extent of the penalisation? How many people were suspended? How many people have been thrown out? What kind of punishments are being meted out? Before anyone had said anything, I said that those who have been proved guilty of sabotage and of indulging in violence must be punished. I said that. Nobody had asked me to say that. As a matter of fact the pressmen before whom I said that turned round and said, "What kind of a politician are you that you are indulging in this kind of thing?" I said that I wanted to be scrupulously fair to the Government as well as to the strikers. I believed that it would not be proper to go to the Government and say that even those who have been proved guilty of sabotage and violence should be taken back. But let us not make use of this occasion by saying that political forces are working behind the strike, that this was an effort, a deliberate effort, as one of the officers is reported to have said, that the strike leaders wanted to throw out Prime Minister Nehru from the Prime Ministership. I think when my hon. friend like Shri Ajit Prasad Jain thinks it is a political strike, well, it is this which makes that particular officer—again, I will not name him or mention the name of the office where it happened—it is this which will give a licence to them to say those things, because no less a person than a senior Member of this House like Shri Ajit Prasad Jain says this.

This is a movement where restraint is needed, where sympathy, and liberalism has to be shown. The Prime Minister has said that for a long time it was not possible for the Government to accept that in the disputes between itself and its employees the principle of arbitration should be accepted. As a matter of fact, some months back, when the employees of the State Bank of India had gone on strike, if I am not mistaken, I believe the whole negotiations were broken on this particular point. Now I am happy to find that the principle of arbitration is being accepted.

The Praja Socialist Party is being maligned. Shri Nandaji or Shri Jagjivan Ram will bear me out when

I say that, Shri Jayaprakash Narayan, when he was the distinguished leader of the Praja Socialist Party had been to one of the Ministers, and when he was the President of the All India Railwaymen's Federation he suggested that the whole nature of the trade union movement in the Railways should be changed. And he suggested that outsiders should be out of it. Many of the things that we are discovering today in our wisdom, Shri Jayaprakash Narayan, when he then was a member and the leader of the Praja Socialist Party, had placed before the Government. And Government had not thought it necessary to look into them.

So let us not condemn a particular party. If we condemn it, let all the facts come out. Again, I am not blaming the Government. Probably for Government the situation was not ripe at that time. Probably each one of us, all of us, are so accustomed, living as we do in these difficult, dynamic, fast-changing, fast-moving times, that we are able to come to grips with a problem only when we are confronted with it in all its seriousness. Therefore, if this kind of an arrangement is to be made let us not put the wrong foot forward. Let us not start by saying that we are going to ban strikes.

What has the Pay Commission said? The Second Pay Commission has said that the necessary institution should be created and the workers themselves will abjure the strike. What happened in England? In England, we find the Government, having crushed the general strike of 1926, thought it could introduce the Trade Disputes Act of 1927. The Trade Disputes Act, 1927 took away many of the rights the employees were enjoying there. But what was the result? In two years that Government was pushed out of power and those very provisions were changed by 1929. And if there are no strikes among government employees today in England it is not because there are legislative measures to prevent them from doing it but it is beause of the maturity of the working classes.

We have got to help the working classes to become mature. And that section of the House and this section of the House, at least a part of this section of the House, is determined, is anxious to co-operate with the Prime Minister to see that that kind of maturity is brought about into the working classes. But it will not come if we are going to egg him on and say, "your instincts are liberal, but go against your instincts, against your intelligence, against your good feelings, and try to make use of this opportunity to crush the poor workers, so that they may not dare to look at any party except the party in power". That, I say, would be a greater tragedy than the tragedy of the strike; because, it would strike at the very foundations of the political institutions that we have sought to build up for a long period of time.

Therefore I would say, let us not talk about banning strikes. Let us try and reorient, reorganise, re-formulate the trade union movement among the government employees. I have often told Nandaji that it is necessary to do it even among other employees. I think our trade union movement, like agriculture, suffers from a tragic fragmentation. There is great need for consolidation of the trade union movement. There is great need for creating those institutional devices whereby the workers may be able to undertake the responsibilities that we are anxious to give them. That, however, is a separate problem.

Here let our approach be constructive. Let it not be one of trying to get over the backs of people who, we think, should not have done what they have done. They did it because there was a whole background. They did it because there was a certain situation. As I said, what happened in England also? There was a misunderstanding and a situation where a misunderstanding was possible.

[Shri Asoka Mehta]

I would therefore beg of the Prime Minister and beg of his colleagues that this particular situation may be utilised for the purposes of straightening out our industrial relations, for the purposes of creating an atmosphere of mutual trust and goodwill which can be created, and needs to be created, and not for the purposes of settling any scores, and not in a spirit of vindictiveness and political vendetta.

Dr. Sushila Nayar (Jhansi): Mr. Chairman, Sir, Shri Asoka Mehta has taken great pains to prove to us that this strike was not in the nature of a civil rebellion. I agree that it did not prove to be a civil rebellion. But suppose what they had contemplated had taken place, suppose the government servants had responded to the call of the so-called Joint Action Committee, and suppose the government servants in the Railways, the Postal Services and all the other government services had gone on strike, could the government of this country have been run? Can any Government be run under those circumstances?

I am inclined to think that the Praja Socialist Party did not intend the strike to be a political strike, but I am afraid they played into the hands of those who wanted it to be a political strike. I wish to submit that the Praja Socialist Party has some wise men like Shri Jayaprakash Narayan, who used to be in that party, and Shri Asoka Mehta. (*An Hon. Member*: What about the rest?) But if he wants us to believe that the Praja Socialist Party consists of all wise men, I beg to disagree.

I believe there was a miscalculation on the part of those who called the strike, and there was a miscalculation on the part of those small numbers of government servants who did respond to that strike. I understand that the number of Central Government Employees who went on strike was even less than 20 per cent mentioned by Shri Ajit Prasad Jain. Of the people who gave the strike notice, I understand that 50 per cent withdrew the notice after the Ordinance was introduced.

I believe it was absolutely necessary that the Ordinance be issued. This action of the Government indicated clearly to the workers that the Government was not going to tolerate the strike. What does the government of a country, the democratic government of a country, consist of? Is it the Prime Minister and his Cabinet? Is it the Cabinet plus the few top Secretaries of the Government? No. All the employees of the Government constitute the government. And the government servants going on strike in this manner can result in nothing but chaos and anarchy and something worse than civil rebellion.

We heard this morning from the Home Minister that in four or five days the economic loss to the country was of the order of four to five crores of rupees. Can we afford this economic loss? We are starved of resources and need every rupee we can get for our social services, economic planning, communications and so on. Can any one take it lightly that a loss of Rs. 4 to Rs. 5 crores occurred as a result of a very limited strike on the part of very few Government employees for only four to five days? The Government of India acted wisely in coming out clearly and firmly and telling the Government servants that it meant business, that it would not tolerate a strike, and thus averted a catastrophe which might have had results beyond anybody's calculations, including the leaders of the P.S.P. who were party to this strike—I mean Shri Nath Pai.

The people of this country, as the Home Minister said, responded magnificently, and they indicated in no uncertain terms that they were not in sympathy with the strikers. Why did they do that? If the cause of the strikers was just, they would have sympathised with them. We are in

sympathy with the strikers to the extent that prices have risen, but the rise in prices has affected everybody, not only the Central Government servants but also the State Government servants, school teachers and all those groups whose income is inelastic, who comprise the salaried group. The servants of the Government of India are somewhat better off than the employees of the State Governments, and the less said about the employees of the District Boards and Municipalities the better. The taxation proposals of Shri T. T. Krishnamachari which raised a furore in the country contemplated an increase in taxes of Rs. 180 crores a year. Out of that Rs. 160 crores have already gone into wages of the Government servants. Where is the money left for the Plan? Unless we find the money for the Plan, how is the prosperity of the country to be brought about, including the prosperity of the Government servants? Therefore, it was absolutely necessary for the Government to clarify the position to the Government servants and the country that this kind of strike would not be tolerated. The result was that the people of the country rallied round the Government, and the vast majority of the Government servants also rallied round the Government. They realised that they had made a mistake, and they tried to rectify that mistake.

The question is: should those who went on strike and those who did not be all treated alike? I am glad that Shri Asoka Mehta agreed that all those guilty of sabotage, violence, acts of intimidation etc., should be severely punished. I believe they will not be taken back into service, and I hope the Government will stick to that resolution. So far as the others are concerned, justice demands that some distinction be made between those who fell a victim to the persuasion or intimidation, and those who loyally stuck to their jobs and went to work irrespective of the risk that they incurred for themselves and their families. I do not say that the former category should be severely dealt with. Let there be a very mild punishment, some kind of warning given to them that Government does not approve of their action, and let there be some indication to the loyal Government servants that Government appreciates their loyalty.

I believe Government must make a distinction between different categories of Government servants. There are Government servants who are today engaged in industrial projects like the steel factories, the telephone factory, the Chittaranjan locomotive factory etc. Government must categorise the services and indicate to the workers which are industrial concerns and which are the essential services. Men who run the railway trains should not be allowed to go on strike.

The question whether the Government servants should have unions is also something that needs very careful consideration. It would be much better if they have some form of Government servants' associations in different departments rather than unions, because the word "union" carries a certain import, a certain connotation, and makes the members of the union feel that they are entitled to all the rights which labour union members are entitled to. Let those who are employed in the industrial concerns have their unions under whatever conditions Government thinks fit.

I believe those employed in ordnance factories must be treated differently. Ordnance factories are as much a part of the defence apparatus as the army of the country. If the army of the country cannot be allowed to go on strike or form unions, I believe the workers of the ordnance factories should be treated in exactly the same manner. There is no reason why they should be permitted to form unions, have trade union rights, the right to go on strike etc. I think it is entirely wrong. Just as the police and army cannot go on strike or form unions, the ordnance factory workers should be prevented from these activities.

If we have associations of Government servants, some kind of mediation apparatus will be necessary to look

[Dr. Sushila Nayar]

into their grievances and deal with them. The Government has made certain proposals regarding the increase in dearness allowance as a consequence of continued increase in prices. I wish to submit to the Prime Minister and the Home Minister that it should be laid down as a rule that within six months of the declaration of any award, whatever has been accepted of the award must be implemented. Let it not drag on. I entirely agree that if the Government servants could sit and work overtime and work out the new pay scales after the threat of strike, they could have done it earlier also if its importance had been realised, if we thought it was something that should be done without delay.

Secondly, it is necessary that we do everything possible to check the prices. This morning's newspapers carried a headline saying that the cotton mills have declared a decrease of ten per cent. in prices. On going through the same column we find that the Chairman of the Cotton Mills Federation says that during this period the increase in prices of coarse cloth not wearable has been 50 per cent. and in coarse and medium cloth wearable 40 per cent. If we read further, it is most interesting to find him to say that the rise in the price of cotton accounts only for 2.5 per cent., and the rise in wages for a little more than 2 per cent., of the rise in prices of cotton fabrics. This means that these two items together account for a total increase of less than five per cent., and yet the rise in price has been 40 and 50 per cent., according to their own admission. Why have we allowed it?

He further says that the total increase in the production cost of medium and lower variety is 21 per cent. and of higher medium variety 18 per cent.

Shri Damani (Jalore): What the hon. lady Member has said, namely that the rise in cotton prices was 2.5 per cent. is not correct; it was actually 22.5 per cent.

Dr. Sushila Nayar: If it was 22 per cent, then my hon. friend must realise that the total increase in the cost of production could not be 18 and 21 per cent. It can, therefore, be only 2·5 per cent. and 2 per cent as reported in newspapers. God only knows how this increase of 21 per cent in the prices came about. The two major factors, namely the price of raw material and the rise in wages do not account for more than five per cent. How has the rest of the increase come about? That has to be enquired into. Even if we accept that the total increase has been 18 per cent. and 21 per cent. respectively, on what basis did they increase the prices by 40 per cent. and 50 per cent?

There is the Tariff Commission's formula for fixing prices. But has anyone gone into the Tariff Commission's formula? Why cannot our inspectors go and put the price-lists on display at the shops and distribute leaflets to the public and tell them that this is the right price of the articles. Why did we allow these businessmen to go and exploit the common man in this country in this fashion? Something has got to be done about it, and the sooner we do it, the better will it be for all concerned.

I have said it already that I have no sympathy for those who organised the strike; I have no sympathy for those who indulged in sabotage and violence and intimidation; I have no sympathy for those men who take Government's wages, work for Government, have their wherewithal as a result of Government service and yet had the audacity to go on strike and shout slogans of *Murdabad* against the leaders of Government. I think it is entirely wrong and it should not be done.

Shri S. M. Banerjee: My hon. friend's sympathy is with the dacoits.

Dr. Sushila Nayar: Those leaders who went and incited the workers in that fashion, I believe, are guilty of

very serious wrongs. They are doing wrong against the workers and against the people of this country, leave aside the Government of this country. I am glad that the Prime Minister refused to meet the so-called Joint Council of Action. The Prime Minister for once showed very firm determination that this strike shall not be allowed, and the people of this country welcomed it because the people of this country want to be governed, and governed properly, fairly and with determination. Therefore, the people of the country rallied round the Prime Minister and his Government and the strike fizzled out.

As I have said already, we have to evolve a machinery for settling the disputes. We have to take action which will make it clear to those who have fallen a prey to the misguidance given by certain leaders, that what they have done is not good and that they shall not do it in the future. As has been already admitted by all parties, those who are guilty of all kinds of serious offences must be seriously dealt with.

We must also do everything to hold the prices, to control the prices, and to prevent undue profiteering on the part of some of our profiteers in this country and thus cut the ground on which such strikes can flourish so that they cannot come about in the future.

श्री काशीनाथ पांडे : सभापति महोदय, मैंने अशोक मेहता जी का भाषण सुना । वह बड़े जोर से कह रहे थे कि जो देश के अन्दर यह आन्दोलन चला उसमें कम से कम पी० एस० पी० का कोई हाथ नहीं था यह तो बिल्कुल आर्थिक लड़ाई थी और राजनीति से इसका कोई सम्बन्ध नहीं था । मैं इसकी डिटेल में नहीं जाना चाहता कि यह आर्थिक लड़ाई थी या इसका राजनीति से कोई सम्बन्ध था या नहीं । लेकिन जिन्होंने चीन के ब्राडकास्ट को सुना होगा वह कह सकते हैं कि यह हमारे गवर्नमेंट सर्वेंट्स की लड़ाई चीन की लड़ाई हो गई थी । मैं पूछना चाहता हूं कि जिस समय चीन का ब्राडकास्ट हुआ तो क्या किसी भी पी० एस० पी० के आदमी ने यह कहा कि चीन अपनी सहानुभूति अपने देश में रखे, हम अपनी लड़ाई लड़ लेंगे । बल्कि उनको तो उससे बड़ी खुशी हुई होगी ।

Shri Nath Pai: May I give an explanation? (*Interruptions*) The Chair has called on me to speak. On a point of personal explanation. I am very grateful to you for allowing me to speak. The insinuation is too serious to be allowed. I am not interrupting anybody, but this kind of insinuation is too serious to go unchallenged. (*Interruptions*) The Chair has given me an opportunity to explain. Mr. Chairman, may I continue? When we found that a country that has been persistently entertaining hostile intentions towards our motherland was trying to exploit what was purely an internal quarrel with what we called our Government and a national Government, I made a statement on behalf of all my colleagues, that is, on the 10th of last month, and that was published in the entire national press. This was what I wanted to point out. These were more or less the very words:

> "Let not China try to derive any comfort from an internal quarrel which we are having. Let them not continue the slander of our Prime Minister whom we regard as our leader when he faces China. And we warn China that it is the glory and strength of a democracy . . .".

Mr. Chairman: The hon. Member should not make a speech now.

Shri Nath Pai: It is not a speech, but it is a defence.

Mr. Chairman: Now, Shri Ramsingh Bhai Varma.

Shri Nath Pai: Let me complete my sentence.

Mr. Chairman: The hon. Member has made a statement already and that is enough.

श्री काशीनाथ पांडे : हो सकता है कि आपने कोई स्टेटमेंट दिया हो ....

Shri Nath Pai: Then withdraw that statement.

श्री काशीनाथ पांडे : मैं कहना चाहता हूं कि एक साहब ने कहा कि आई० एन० टी० यू० सी० का रोल बड़ा मिजरेबिल था। मैं इस विषय के विस्तार में बाद में जाऊंगा। मैं अभी इतना कहना चाहता हूं कि अभी जो एक साहब ने कहा कि आई० एन० टी० यू० सी० का रोल मिजरेबिल रहा, यह बात सही नहीं है। मैं इस समय यह कहना चाहता हूं कि अपने सूबे उत्तर प्रदेश में हमने काम करना अपना फर्ज समझा। वहां पर हमारे साथ सैकड़ों या हजारों ही नहीं हमारे साथ जनता है। अगर जनता साथ न देती तो क्या आई० एन० टी० यू० सी० चल सकती थी? क्या उस हालत में आई० एन० टी० यू० सी० जिन्दा रह सकती थी? यह संस्था जिन्दा रह सकती है देश के हित में, राष्ट्र के हित म कुछ थोड़े हजार व्यक्तियों के हित में नहीं।

एक माननीय सदस्य : शूगर मिल मालिकों के हित में।

श्री काशीनाथ पांडे : मैं आपसे कहना चाहता हूं कि जहां तक आई० एन० टी० यू० सी० का सवाल है, आप यह भूलिये नहीं कि ३ जून, १९४७ को जिस समय कि आई० एन० टी० यू० सी० की नींव रखी गई उस समय उस मीटिंग में आचार्य कृपलानी जी भी मौजूद थे और उस समय यह महसूस कया गया कि देश के अन्दर आज जो सरकार है उसमें ऐसी फोर्सेज को एलाऊ नहीं किया जा सकता जो देश के अन्दर उत्पात मचाने वाली हों और इसी दृष्टिकोण से आई० एन० टी० यू० सी० का जन्म हुआ। आई० एन० टी० यू० सी० ने अपनी ड्यूटी की और आज भी उसने देश के हित में काम किया है। मैं कहना चाहता हूं कि अगर देश में स्ट्राइक सफल हो गया होता तो जनता को भूखों मरने से आप कैसे बचाते। उससे जो आर्थिक हानि होती उस पर तो मैं बाद में आऊंगा। आप गेहूं और चावल के दाम के लिये चिल्लाते हैं, अगर रेलवे काम न करतीं तो आप सोचिये कि गल्ला किस भाव में बिकता। ऐसे वक्त में आई० एन० टी० यू० सी० ने देश का साथ दिया और इसके लिये उसकी शिकायत नहीं की जा सकती।

मैं केवल एक बात पूछना चाहता हूं। अगर देश के अन्दर कास्ट आफ लिविंग ऊंची हुई है तो क्या केवल गवर्नमेंट सर्वेंट्स पर ही इसका असर पड़ा, क्या दूसरी इंडस्ट्रीज में काम करने वालों पर इसका असर नहीं हुआ। अशोक मेहता जी ने कहा कि १५वीं लेबर कानफरेंस ने नार्म्स के बारे में निर्णय किया था यानी कि तीन कंजम्पशन यूनिट के आधार पर एक मजदूर का वेतन तै होना चाहिये। उन्होंने इस पर बहुत जोर दिया। मैं पूछना चाहता हूं कि तीन नार्म्स बेसिस पर क्या टैक्सटाइल इंडस्ट्री में वेज फिक्स हुए। जब इंडस्ट्री ऐसा नहीं कर सकी तो सरकार कैसे कर सकती है और कैसे इतना पैसा दे सकती है। अगर सरकार ऐसा करना चाहे तो उसको साढ़े सात सौ करोड़ रुपया अमरीका से कर्जा लेकर सरकारी कर्मचारियों को देना होगा और देश को बेचना होगा। क्या जनता इसको पसन्द करेगी। क्या ऐसा करने से देश की सेवा हो सकती है। अगर आई० एन० टी० यू० सी० ने इस समय सरकार का साथ दिया तो आप उसको कैसे बुरा कह सकते हैं। लोगों को यह समझना चाहिये था कि इस हड़ताल के क्या रिपरकशन हो सकते हैं। एक मांग पेश करके थोड़े समय के लिये लोगों की सहानुभूति प्राप्त की जा सकती है लेकिन आज हमारे देश में प्रजातंत्र की रक्षा के लिये यह

जरूरी है कि देश को सची बात बताई जाए। ऐसा होगा तभी देश में प्रचातंत्र की रक्षा हो सकती है। अगर हम गलत बातें कह के लोगों की सहानुभूति हासिल करने की कोशिश करेंगे तो जब उन बातों का एक्सपोजर होगा तो लोग हमारे खिलाफ हो जायेंगे और जनता हमारा साथ नहीं देगी।

मैं आपसे कहना चाहता हूं कि जब स्ट्राइक फेल हो गया तो एक कम्युनिस्ट साहब मेरे पास लखनऊ आए। उन्होंने कहा कि मेरा नाम न बतलाना, इसलिये मैं उनका नाम नहीं लेना चाहता। उन्होंने कहा कि आज जो यह स्ट्राइक हुई है वह गवर्नमेंट की वजह से हुई है। मैंने पूछा कैसे, तो उन्होंने कहा कि अगर शुरू में गवर्नमेंट ने हमको राइट आफ एसोसिएशन न दिया होता तो यह चक्कर ही पैदा न होता और हम इस चक्कर में न पड़ते। बात यह थी कि वह निकाल दिए गए थे। मैं यह नहीं कहता कि एसोसिएशन का राइट ही न दिया जाए। यह ठीक है कि आज उसका गलत इस्तेमाल हुआ है। मैं कहना चाहता हूं कि जो हमारी लेबर पालिसी थी उसमें यह था कि चाहे कोई देश के हित में काम करे या अहित में, सब के साथ बराबर का व्यवहार किया जाना चाहिए। और जहां तक लेबर मिनिस्ट्री का ताल्लुक है उसने ऐसा ही किया। साल भर पहले आई० एन० टी० यू० सी० ने स्मेल किया कि डिफेंस अंडरटेकिंग्स में खतरा आने वाला है। जब से बार्डर का झगड़ा हुआ है तब से सेबटाज होना शुरू हो गया है। आई० एन० टी० यू० सी० ने डिफेंस के मजदूरों का नेशनल फेडरेशन बनाया जिसको आज तक रिकागनीशन तक नहीं मिला है। मैं आपसे कहना चाहता हूं कि कानपुर में बनर्जी साहब की बहुत ताकत थी लेकिन नेशनल फेडरेशन की वजह से उनकी हिम्मत नहीं पड़ी हड़ताल कराने की। और अन्त में उनको फेस सेविंग के लिये अपने को अरेस्ट कराना पड़ा। यह हालत हो गई थी। अगर जनता इस चीज को बुरा समझती तो आपके पास कोई प्रस्ताव आना चाहिये था कि कानपुर के सिटीजन इसको बुरा समझते हैं कि स्ट्राइक कामयाब नहीं हो सका और आई० एन० टी० यू० सी० ने इसका विरोध करके गलत काम किया। लेकिन हो यह रहा है कि स्ट्राइक नहीं हो सका इसके लिये लोग आई० एन० टी० यू० सी० को धन्यवाद दे रहे हैं। और लोग महसूस कर रहे हैं कि अगर इसी तरह से लेटीट्यूड दिया गया और लीनिएंट व्यू लिया गया तो किसी वक्त खतरा हो जाएगा। लेकिन मैं अर्ज करना चाहता हूं कि आप आई० एन० टी० यू० सी० के साथ भी वैसा ही व्यवहार न करें जैसा कि औरों के साथ। आज हम देखते हैं कि जो पाप इन लोगों ने किए हैं उनका फल हमको भोगना पड़ रहा है। अब गवर्नमेंट की यह पालिसी हो रही है कि इन युनियनों में आउटसाइडर न हों। आप देखें कि आउटसाइडर तो दोनों तरफ हैं। एक कांस्ट्रक्टिव काम करते हैं तो दूसरे डेस्ट्रक्टिव काम करते हैं। अगर रेलवे में स्ट्राइक नहीं हुआ तो यह आउटसाइडर्स की वजह से ही, अगर डिफेंस यूनिट्स में स्ट्राइक नहीं हुआ तो आउटसाइडर्स की वजह से। जहां हमारी यूनियन मजबूत थी वहां पर स्ट्राइक नहीं हुआ।

16 hrs.

और मैं एक बात कहना चाहता हूं कि ११ जुलाई के स्ट्राइक को तो छोड़िए, १४ जुलाई को जो यह लोग एक टोकिन स्ट्राइक करना चाहते थे उसको भी कानपुर में नहीं कराया जा सका। ऐसा आई० एन० टी० यू० सी० की वजह से ही हो सका।

Shri S. M. Banerjee: Let there be a referendum, and if INTUC Unions in Defence get 10 per cent, I shall dissolve my Unions. They have no following.

श्री काशीनाथ पांडे : आज जरूरत इस बात की है कि आई० एन० टी० यू० सी०

[श्री काशीनाथ पांडे]

को मजबूत बनाया जाए । हाउस में यह कहना दूसरी बात है कि इसका काम मिजरेबिल रहा लेकिन आप जनता से जाकर पूछिए ।

मैं केवल यह कहना चाहता हूं कि आपको एक कंडीशन ले डाउन करनी चाहिए कि जहां तक रिकागनीशन का सवाल है सब आउटसाइडर्स को बन्द न करना चाहिए । ऐसे रूल बनाने चाहिए कि जो आउटसाइडर कांस्ट्रक्टिव लाइन पर काम करने के लिए राजी हों उनको काम करने दिया जाए और जो उस के लिए राजी न हों उनको न काम करने दिया जाए ।

अभी अजित प्रसाद जी ने एक बात कही कि जो लोग यह कहें कि आगे हम ला एबाइडिंग रहेंगे उनको रहने दिया जाए । लेकिन मैं तो इसको ठीक नहीं समझता क्योंकि अभी तो सब कह देंगे कि हम ला एबाइडिंग रहेंगे लेकिन बाद में वैसा नहीं करेंगे । इसलिए मैं कहता हूं कि इसके लिए कंडीशंस ले डाउन कर देना चाहिए ।

दूसरी बात मैं अर्ज करना चाहता हूं वेज के सम्बन्ध में । मैं समझता हूं कि आज कास्ट आफ लिविंग बढ़ी है इसका एम्पलाईज पर असर पड़ा है । इसका हल केवल आर्डिनेन्स से नहीं हो सकता । सन् १९२६ से पहले हमारे देश में कोई ट्रेड यूनियन ऐक्ट नहीं था । बिल्कुल जंगल ला था । लेकिन तब भी लोगों ने महसूस किया कि एसोसिएशन बनना चाहिए । १९२६ में ट्रेड यूनियन ऐक्ट बना । और एसोसिएशन बनने लगे । मैं आपसे कहना चाहता हूं कि जिन लोगो ने इस स्ट्राइक में भाग लिया है वे भी आपके बच्चे हैं । यह ठीक है कि जिन लोगों ने सेबटाज किया उनके खिलाफ कार्रवाई की गयी । लेकिन बहुत से लोग ऐसे हैं जिनके हालात की आपको जांच करनी चाहिए ताकि गलत तरीके से किसी को सजा न हो जाए । आप उनके पिता हैं और वह भी आपकी तरफ देख रहे हैं ।

एक चीज मैं आपसे और कहना चाहता हूं । जिन अंडरटेकिंग्स को आप एसेंसियल सरविस कहते हैं उनमें आप हड़ताल का राइट बन्द करने जा रहे हैं उनमें भी लोगों की ग्रीवांस हो सकती हैं । किसी भी स्वस्थ आदमी को जैसे जुकाम हो सकता है वैसे ही उनके भी कुछ ग्रीवांस हो सकते हैं । उनको रिड्रेस करने के लिए भी कोई व्यवस्था होनी चाहिए । चाहे आप शुरू में उसके लिये कंसिलिएशन करें और बाद में आरबिट्रेशन करें या शुरू ही से आरबिट्रेशन कर दें । मैं सिर्फ यही कहना चाहता हूं ।

आखिर में मैं श्री भरूचा साहब के मोशन का घोर विरोध करता हूं और गवर्नमेंट ने जो एक्शन लिया उसका पूरी तरह से समर्थन करता हूं ।

Shri M. R. Masani (Ranchi-East): Mr. Chairman, I thought that, after the speech of Shri Asoka Mehta which set a very good tone for our discussion, we should go out of our way to avoid recrimination and, as far as possible, ascertainment of the guilt of various parties. I would, therefore, like to start by considering the fundamental principles which bear on an occasion like this.

It appears to me that the tragedy which we are discussing is, like all real tragedies, not a clash between right and wrong, but between right and right. There are two kinds of right principles or logic which have come into collision on an occasion like this. On the one side, the Fundamental Rights in our Constitution give every citizen the right of freedom of association and the right to deny his labour. These are very sacred rights and any attempt to deny them must be very carefully considered and very carefully limited.

Pandit K. C. Sharma (Hapur): Not to apply to Government.

Shri M. R. Masani: I will come to that. Let the hon. Member be a little patient.

Similarly, the Directive Principles of our Constitution lay down certain economic policies like giving everyone a living wage; and certainly, as Shri Asoka Mehta argued, the erosion of the real wages of low-paid employees is something that we should do everything possible to avert. These are the principles—the right of freedom of association and the right to strike, which distinguish a free man from a bounded slave, and also the right to certain minimum standards.

On the other hand, there is an other equally valid principle, and that principle is that of the normal functioning of a community. The British phrase has it. 'The King's Government must be carried on', and in our own country, the President's Government must proceed, and anything that disrupts the normal, ordered life of the community or of society has to be eschewed. From this the corollary follows that our civil services and State employees —I am talking of the civil services proper, the Secretariat establishment, and not of industrial workers—must be immune from political influence or political affiliation. From that also follows a corollary that their associations and unions, when recognised, should be confined to those who belong to these vocations.

So here there are two principles or two logics coming on this occasion into violent conflict. We should try to understand each point of view and find out how much merit there is in those who espouse these respective points of view.

Now, there is one party in this country, one body of people in this country, about whom we are all unanimous there can be no criticism, and that is the common people of our country. The common people of our country have, as everyone has said so far, rallied in defence of the normal functioning of the community and the carrying on of the President's Government. It does not mean that the public condemned the strikers' economic demands or that they did not find justice in them. But it did mean this—that on this particular occasion, public opinion asserted itself overwhelmingly behind those whose duty it was, for the time being, to maintain the ordered existence and the survival of the community. So at least there is one party who are the real victors, to whom our congratulations go, and they are the common people of India.

Now, so far as the protagonists to the dispute are concerned, the Government and their employees, as I said the other day, each had a principle which they followed; but they were not able to check these from coming to a collision.

So far as the employees are concerned, their case is that their real incomes had been eroded by a constant process of a rise in prices. Shri Asoka Mehta has made out that case clearly and I will not cover that ground. It cannot be denied that they had a valid claim to compensation to maintain the their real incomes, not to ask for more money but at least to be safeguarded that what they get in 1947 would be the real wages they would continue to get. What is the root cause of this difficulty?

The rise in prices followed from governmental policy. It followed from the pattern of planning to which this country has been led during the past decade. This pattern of planning has built in it, has inherent in it, inflation. This has been pointed out from the very beginning of the Second Plan by a number of people like Prof. Shenoy who dissented from his colleagues in the Panel of Economists to point out that if this Plan was sought to be put through there would be a rise in prices

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and inflation. This warning was ignored by Government. This warning was repeated on the floor of this House by many of us from 1957 onwards. By deficit financing, by excessive taxation, by the imposition of exise duties on the necessities of life, by obsession with capital incentive projects like steel plants to the neglect of the wants of the community, this Government has almost deliberately set in motion a process of inflation.

The employees who are low paid come before the Government and ask for compensation. Is it fair, the employees say, to ask others to be generour rather than those who like Government themselves are rich and powerful? There is no denial that the employees' basic demand of 100 per cent. compensation is justified in principle.

Similarly, who has created this enormous class of underpaid civil servants? It is alleged that three clerks today do the work and one clerk could do perfectly satisfactorily in our Secretariat. On whom does the burden lie of creating this huge army of under-paid and under-worked people? If one clerk had been there he could have been paid much more. You have today three under-paid and underworked clerks. The entire responsibility for this enormous loss in civil expenditure, which one Finance Minister after another has been unable to control, this expansion of bureaucracy which far exceeds anything that Prof. Parkinson ever dreamt about, is again the responsibility of the Government of the day. So, this is the economic root cause of the strike and this responsibility must lie squarely on the shoulders of the Government.

Then, we come to the immediate crisis. Faced with this demand Government appointed a Pay Commission. The Pay Commission made its report and, as the Home Minister has pointed out, with some modifications, those recommendations were accepted. But, the Pay Commission, if I may point out is not a judicial tribunal. The Pay Commission was an advisory body. Its terms of reference asked it to take into account not only the justice of the employees' claims but all the political and economic factors that go into the making of governmental policy. And, like men of affairs, like practical men, although they saw the justice of what the employees were entitled to, they also saw the practical difficulties in the way of those demands being met. And so they tried to reconcile the conflicting points of view.

The point I am making is that reference to the Pay Commission which the Home Minister rightly called "a high-power body" was not a reference to a judicial tribunal whose award would be binding. There is a very big difference between these two things.

I am making this point because I was very happy to hear from the Home Minister this morning that, at long last, Government have agreed that in their disputes with their employees where necessary, they will bow to the rule of law. Hitherto they were arrogant enough to behave like Louis the XIV and say *'L'etat C'est moi'*, I am the State. I have heard Ministers of this Government say that they would not go to arbitration because government itself is the law. That is perfectly all right when the Government is a judicial body. Certainly, it has the sovereignty of law. But, when Government becomes an employer, when the Government opens factories and runs railways, then, it ceases to be sovereign and it becomes like any other employer: somebody whose duty it is to conform to the norms of civilised society. I am very happy that, at long last, three years too late, they have bowed to this principle after this very hard knock which all of us had had to suffer.

In this very House, three years ago, on behalf of the Independent Parliamentary Group to which I then belonged, I moved an amendment, a simple amendment saying that before a strike is declared unlawful, Govern-

ment should agree to refer it to a arbitration or adjudication. To my regret the hon. Minister of State who is sitting opposite, refused to accept that amendment on the plea that Government could not accept arbitration. Everything must be left to their discretion, to their wisdom as to what they would do in the end. This is what led to the strike. If, in that Bill, a clause for arbitration had been put in, I make bold to say that that there would not have been the strike in the last few weeks. However, let us be glad that, as Shri Asoka Mehta put it, faced with a major catastrophe, the consciousness of the rightness of what Gandhiji used to call the rule of law, has been at long last accepted by Government in their disputes with their employees. It is a great advance for Government and the employees and for our country as a whole.

Now, this is the position. I have said what needed to be considered from the employees' point of view. Now, let me say a word from the other side. I think that, on the eve of the strike when certain concessions were made which amounted, as far as I understand, to the linking of wages with prices in principle, 50 per cent. neutralisation of the rise in the cost of living and an agreement to go to arbitration, as I understand it, in respect of the balance, I think, at that point, any strike became unjustifiable. And I am very sorry that my hon. friends who led that strike did not at that moment reconsider the position and realise that the interests of the workers of the country would not benefit by imposing a strike on the country when so much had been gained and so little remained to be obtained. I believe, therefore, that the strike was thoroughly ill-advised and unjustified. I do feel this—that those who led that strike did not give enough weight, as the Home Minister put it this morning, to the enormity of the peril to the country and the problems it would create. I think, at that point, statesmanship and good leadership would have lain in resiling from the strike and progressing further with negotiations. After all, leadership consists in guiding followers right and not in doing what, at the moment, might be popular with them. I do feel that the leaders of the strike, at that moment, resorted to that very well-known Leftist weakness of tailism, they followed the followers without correcting them and giving them a proper lead.

When the Ordinance was passed—and I agree that Ordinance is a lawless law; we have been brought up on that phrase when the British Government passed its Ordinances—we had to bow to the rule of law. We did always say that they are lawless laws. When Parliament was not in session and the law which had been passed had lapsed, they had to bring up this Bill in the form of an Ordinance. Assuming all that, and that an Ordinance goes against the spirit of the rule of law because Parliament had no chance to sit over it, I still say that the duty of the strikers and their leaders at that point was to have called off the strike. In a democracy we have to bow to the law whether we like it or not, whether for the moment we believe it is fair or not. I do feel that the leaders of the strike failed in their duty at that point of time in not bowing to it, accepting it for the time being and trying to argue against it and trying to change it when Parliament met. Then, I think their position today would have been immensely superior before the House and the country, in appealing to Parliament to reject this Ordinance and give them justice. I think the fact that they went on strike and that Shri Bharucha's motion has come at the end of a strike that was called off a strike that had failed because the people of this country would not go along with them, has done their cause no good.

I would like to conclude by stating what appear to be certain valid conclusions that follow. We were told by the Home Minister this

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morning that Government propose to ban strikes of government employees. Or, did he say civil services? (*Interruption*). It is very important —the word he used—and the category of servants. I would like to make a respectful suggestion that before we put in this word in the Bill that is to come before us, we should examine it carefully on merits. It is an important thing to distinguish between different classes of government employees. One rule or one yardstick will not serve for different categories of government employees. I am sure the Labour Minister is aware of the international legislation on this subject. There are civil servants proper who work in the Secretariat; they are one category. There are workers in essential enterprises, who are another. And, then, there are the normal, common industrial employees of Government and particularly of a Government that barges unnecessarily into producing things. These employees, the third category, are no different from any other private employees and no attempt should be made to distinguish between the ordinary industrial employees of government and these who work in other factories. But in the case of the first two, civil servants and the essential services, I think the Government would be entitled to come before us with a set of proposals distinguishing them from normal employees and limiting their rights but also defining the procedures by which alternative remedies could be given to them.

Shri Naushir Bharucha: You do not want to ban strikes?

Shri M. R. Masani: I do not want the banning of strikes. I would come to it later. In regard to the recognition of association or unions of the first two categories of people, Government would have every right to say that membership and leadership should be limited to the actual employees and that outsiders, whatever their political affiliation—even Shri Kashinath Pandey—should not be allowed to lead them. That follows from what I said earlier—that civil servants must be immune from political affiliation or interference.

Thirdly, in regard to the banning of strikes about which Shri Bharucha is anxious, I would like, in the spirit of what Shri Jayaprakash Narayan has said, to try to avoid a resort to such a ban. I believe it is legitimate in a democracy to ban strikes in a very limited sphere like the essential services.

In this connection, may I say that I hope the Prime Minister was misquoted this morning when it was reported—I hope wrongly or inaccurately reported—that he told a Congress Party meeting that he for one had never criticised the Soviet dictatorship for banning all strikes by all workers? Once we ban strike by all the workers we become a totalitarian dictatorship and cease to be a free society. I do believe the Government have no such intention. Therefore, let us limit the truncating of the right to strike to essential services and civil servants proper. In regard to these, I would prefer Shri Jayaprakash Narayan's approach—trying to get an agreed formula for arbitration, if you like compulsory arbitration as in Australia, because we know compulsory arbitration automatically prevents a strike. There could no longer be strike once compulsory arbitration or voluntary arbitration is agreed to. I would suggest to all concerned, including those who led the Government employees to agree to the principle that all disputes between them and the Government should be justiciable and should go to a tribunal of some kind chosen with the consent of both parties. Once it is done, it is obvious that the right to strike has been forsworn and adjured and therefore, a legal ban may or may not be necessary. If it is, let it be a formality but let it follow rather than precede the other remedies. I advanced the proposition three years ago and I am glad it is being

accepted. You cannot deny a man the right to deny his labour unless you give him the right to a judicial recourse. Once this has been accepted, you can illegalise strikes in these limited spheres of activity.

Lastly, may I say that I think what we need now is the healing touch. We do not need a war of vindictiveness. I am glad to see from the speech of the hon. Home Minister that that spirit is completely lacking. The same spirit should be shown on this side because the losers quite often are more vindictive than the winners and therefore what Shri Asoka Mehta said to those benches applies as much to those who sit on this side of the House. In the larger interest of the country we should consider the proposals which the Government bring before us to see that there is no repetition of this kind of incident, but I say that this incident is one which could have been avoided if three years earlier the same spirit that now animates the Government benches had been available.

श्री वाजपेयी : सभापति महोदय, इस बात से इंकार नहीं किया जा सकता कि केन्द्रीय कर्मचारियों की हड़ताल के लिये केन्द्रीय शासन बहुत अंशों में जिम्मेदार है। वेतन आयोग की रिपोर्ट के प्रकाशन के पश्चात् जिम्मेदार कर्मचारियों के परामर्श के बिना ऐसे परिवर्तन किये गये जो कर्मचारियों के हितों के प्रदिकूल थे। आज कहा जाता है कि वेतन आयोग की रिपोर्ट एक पंच का फैसला था। यदि वह पंच का फैसला था तो भी उस में एक तरफा परिवर्तन नहीं किया जाना था। शनिवार की छुट्टी का सवाल है या एक जुलाई से कर्मचारियों को सुविधायें देने का प्रश्न था। सरकार ने उन में मनमाना परिवर्तन किया। वेतन आयोग ने सिफारिश की थी कि एक शनिवार को पूरा काम होना चाहिये और एक शनिवार को पूरी छुट्टी किन्तु केन्द्रीय सरकार ने उसे दल दिया। एक जुलाई से जो सुविधाएं लागू की जानी चाहिये थीं उन्हें ३१ दिसम्बर तक हटा दिया गया। मैं नहीं समझता कि केन्द्रीय सरकार ने उस रिपोर्ट को एवार्ड मान कर अपना कार्य आरम्भ किया और अगर यह मान भी लिया जाय कि वेतन आयोग की रिपोर्ट एक एवार्ड था तो इस प्रकार के उदाहरण मौजूद हैं कि जब सरकार ने एवार्डों में परिवर्तन किया है। बैंक एवार्ड में परिवर्तन के विरुद्ध श्री गिरि ने अपने पद से त्यागपत्र दे दिया था। यदि बैंकों के, मिलमालिकों के पक्ष में किसी एवार्ड में परिवर्तन हो सकता है तो कोई कारण नहीं है कि २२ लाख कर्मचारियों के हितों का विचार करते हुए अगर पे कमिशन की रिपोर्ट एक एवार्ड थी तो उसमें भी कोई संशोधन क्यों नहीं किया जा सकता था। उसमें भी संशोधन किया जा सकता था। लेकिन मुझे शिकायत है कि सरकार ने उसे एवार्ड नहीं माना और यह शिकायत हमारे आई० एन० टी० यू० सी० के नेताओं को भी है कि कमिशन ने कुछ ऐसी सिफारिशें की थीं जो पहले कमिशन की सिफारिशों के खिलाफ जाती थीं। पे कमिशन की रिपोर्ट में कुछ एसी भी सिफारिशें थीं जिन में कर्मचारियों की सुविधाओं में जो उन्होंने वर्षों संघर्ष करने के पश्चात् प्राप्त की थीं, कटौती कर दी गई थी। क्या यह स्वाभाविक नहीं थी कि सरकार उन सिफारिशों को लागू करने से पहले केन्द्रीय कर्मचारियों के प्रतिनिधियों को वार्ता के लिये बुलाती ? क्या पहले पे कमिशन की रिपोर्ट एक एवार्ड नहीं थी ? क्या उस में मंहगाई भत्ते के सम्बन्ध में जो सिफारिश की गई थी उसे सरकार ने लागू किया ? क्या उस सिफारिश को लागू करने के लिये जिस प्रकार की मशीनरी की स्थापना की जानी थी, सरकार ने लागू किया ? हमारी सरकार ने पहले पे कमिशन की रिपोर्ट को खटाई में रक्खा क्योंकि वह कर्मचारियों के हित में जाती थी और दूसरे पे कमिशन

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की रिपोर्ट को पंच परमेश्वर का फैसला कह कर लागू करने की कोशिश की। मेरा निवेदन है कि अगर दोनों वेतन आयोगों में मतभेद था और अगर दूसरे वेतन आयोग की सिफारिशें ऐसी थीं जिनमें कि कर्मचारियों की वर्त्तमान सुविधाओं में कटौती होती है तो उस के सम्बन्ध में केन्द्रीय कर्मचारियों के प्रतिनिधियों से मिलने में किसी प्रकार की आपत्ति नहीं होनी चाहिये। ज्वाएंट कौंसिल आफ ऐक्शन बाद में बनी। जब इस सदन में वेतन आयोग की रिपोर्ट पर विचार हुआ और एक प्रश्न के रूप में वित्त मंत्री महोदय से पूछा गया कि क्या आप केन्द्रीय कर्मचारियों के प्रतिनिधियों को बुला कर बात करेंगे तो वित्त मंत्री जी ने साफ इंकार कर दिया। उन्होंने कहा कि बात जो होनी थी वह पहले हो गई। अब तो रिपोर्ट आ गई है और हम उसे लागू करेंगे। मेरा निवेदन है कि यह रवैय्या बहुत ही गलत था और इसलिये केन्द्रीय सरकार इस हड़ताल को निमन्त्रण देने के लिये जिम्मेदार है। ज्वाएंट कौंसिल आफ एक्शन का निर्माण बाद में हुआ और मैं समझता हूं कि हमारे प्रधान मंत्री जी जानते थे कि वित्त मंत्री जी ने केन्द्रीय कर्मचारियों के प्रतिनिधियों से मिलने से इंकार कर दिया है। उस समय हड़ताल की कोई बात नहीं थी और शायद लोगों के दिमाग में हड़ताल का विचार भी नहीं था और अगर उसी समय केन्द्रीय कर्मचारियों के प्रतिनिधियों से सरकार की बातचीत हो जाती तो हड़ताल की नौबत न आती। मगर सरकार ने हठधर्मी का रुख अपनाया जिसका परिणाम यह हुआ कि हमें हड़ताल के दुर्भाग्य का सामना करना पड़ा। मैं हड़ताल को दुर्भाग्य कहता हूं। यह केन्द्रीय सरकार के लिये भी दुर्भाग्य की बात थी, और जिनके हाथों में केन्द्रीय कर्मचारियों का नेतृत्व था उनके लिए भी दुर्भाग्य की बात थी कि हमको देश में हड़ताल का दृश्य देखना पड़ा। लेकिन मेरा निवेदन है कि अगर सरकार चाहती तो हड़ताल को टाल सकती थी।

मैंने केन्द्रीय कर्मचारियों के नेताओं से बातचीत की। वे नहीं सोचते थे कि हड़ताल करनी पड़ेगी यहां तक कि उन्होंने हड़ताल की तैयारी भी नहीं की थी। उन्होंने हड़ताल के लिये कर्मचारियों को प्रोत्साहित भी नहीं किया था। मैं आपसे कहना चाहता हूं कि अगर उन्होंने केन्द्रीय कर्मचारियों को हड़ताल के लिये तैयार किया होता तो आज आप यह दावा नहीं करते कि केवल २० फीसदी कर्मचारियों ने ही हड़ताल की है। भले ही २० फीसदी न हड़ताल की हो मगर जो उन की मांगें थीं उन के पीछे सारे केन्द्रीय कर्मचारियों की सहानुभूति थी और रहेगी। वे समझते थे कि समय रहते बुद्धिमानी काम आयेगी और हमारे प्रधान मंत्री जी कम से कम मिलने से इंकार नहीं करेंगे और अगर मान लीजिये कि उन्हों ने ज्वाइंट कौंसिल आफ एक्शन बना भी ली तो उस से कौन सा आसमान सिर पर टूट पड़ा। हमारे प्रधान मंत्री जी कहते हैं कि वे पिछले ४० साल से हर व्यक्ति से हर जगह मिलने को तैयार हैं। अब यह केन्द्रीय कर्मचारियों के प्रतिनिधि उन्हीं के अनुयायी हैं और उन के नेतृत्व में देश का निर्माण करन के लिये प्रयत्नशील हैं। अगर उन्हों ने संघष समिति का निर्माण करके गलती की तो प्रधान मंत्री जी को दूसरी गलती उन से मिलने से इंकार कर के नहीं करनी चाहिये थी और उन से मिलने से इंकार कर के सरकार ने बातचीत का दरवाजा बन्द कर दिया। उस से एक असन्तोष की भावना फैली और केन्द्रीय कर्मचारियों के जो नेता थे उन के लिये एक असमंजस पैदा हो गया कि क्या करें और क्यान करें। मैं समझता हूं कि परिस्थितियों से मजबर

हो कर उन्हों ने हड़ताल का फैसला किया। मैं श्री नाथपाई से हड़ताल के एक दिन पहले मिला था और मैं ने निवेदन किया था कि श्री फीरोज गांधी का फार्मूला मान लेना चाहिये। यद्यपि वह पूरी तरह से केन्द्रीय कर्मचारियों की मांगों का समर्थन नहीं करता लेकिन जब सरकार हठधर्मी पर अड़ी थी और अपनी सारी सामूहिक शक्ति के बल पर हड़ताल को कुचलने पर तुली थी तो मैं ने श्री नाथपाई को कहा था कि फीरोज गांधी का फार्मूला मान लेना चाहिये मगर हमारे जो ड़ताली नेता थे उन को डर था कि और हम ने कुछ ऐसी चीज मान ली जिसे कर्मचारियों ने पसन्द नहीं किया तो फिर हमारे लिये कठिनाई पैदा होगी। मैं समझता हूं कि यह नेतृत्व का सवाल नहीं है और जिन के कि हाथों में शासन की बागडोर है उन्हें भी इस स्थिति को समझना चाहिये था। लेकिन उन्हों ने नहीं समझा और जो हड़ताली नेता थे वे ऐसी परिस्थिति में फंस गऐ कि उस से बहार नहीं निकल सके। मैं ने श्री नाथ पाई को सुझाव दिया था कि अगर उन्हें हड़ताल करनी ही हो तो वे एक दिन की हड़ताल करें, अनिश्चित समय की हड़ताल न करें। केन्द्रीय सरकार के कर्मचारी अगर शासन की नीतियों के विरोध में अपना रोष प्रकट करना चहते हैं तो एक दिन की टोकन स्ट्राइक करें, और उन का विरोध प्रकट हो जायेगा और अनिश्चित काल की हड़ताल से जो भयंकर परिणाम होंगे उन दुष्परिणामों से भी वे बच जायेंगे लेकिन मालूम ऐसा लगता है कि चीज उन के हाथ से फिसल गई और हड़ताल हो गई।

सभापति महोदय, मेरा निवेदन है कि हमारे प्रधान मंत्री जी ने जो रेडियो पर भाषण दिया उस का कर्मचारियों पर बड़ा प्रभाव हुआ क्योंकि उस में भावुकता थी। उस में उन्हों ने दो तस्वीरें खींची थीं। एक हिमालय की चोटियों पर काम करने वाले मजदूरों जवानों की तस्वीर और एक मैदानों में दफ्तरों में कलम की तलवार से जूझने वाले कर्मचारियों की तस्वीर थी। मुझे खेद है कि यह तस्वीरें उन्हों ने इस तरह से पेश की थीं कि सेना में काम करने वाले जवानों और सिविल एम्पलाईज के बीच में एक दरार खड़ी कर दी। यह देश के लिये बड़े ही दुर्भाग्य की बात थी। जो भी कर्मचारी हैं वे सब सरकार के कर्मचारी हैं, देश के सेवक हैं। उन में इस तरह का कोई भेद भाव नहीं किया जाना चाहिये और मेरा निवेदन है कि दो तस्वीरें केवल पहाड़ की चोटियों पर तैनात जवानों की और मैदानों में काम करने वाले सिविल एम्प्लाईज

ही नहीं बल्कि दो तस्वीरें पहाड़ की चोटियों पर भी मिल सकती हैं और दो तस्वीरें मैदान में भी मिल सकती हैं। जवानों और अफसरों की तनख्वाहों के बीच का भारी अन्तर पहाड़ की चोटी पर भी मिल सकता है और मैदानों में भी मिल सकता है। अगर सरकार मानती है कि एक कर्मचारी का न्यूनतम वेतन ८० रुपये होना चाहिये तो मेरा कहना है कि अधिक से अधिक वेतन ८०० रुपये होना चाहिये। क्या सभी पार्टियां इस बात से सहमत नहीं हैं कि एक दूसरे में आमदनी का अन्तर १ और १० के बीच में होना चाहिये और अगर आप मान लेते हैं कि आमदनी में १ और १० का अन्तर न हो कर आज की परिस्थितियों में १ और २० के बीच में होना चाहिये तो भी अधिक से अधिक वेतन अगर आप न्यूनतम वेतन ८० रुपया मानते हैं तो वह १६०० रुपये से ज्यादा नहीं हो सकता। मगर एक चौथे दर्जे का कर्मचारी तीस, चालीस रुपए पा सकता है और एक बड़ा अफ़सर तीन हजार, साढ़े तीन हजार रुपये पा सकता है। यह चीज है, जो कर्मचारियों के हृदय में खलती है और अगर यह भेद रहता है, तो सरकार कानून बना कर हड़ताल को नहीं रोक सकती। महाभारत में कुन्ती ने कहा था कि मेरे पुत्र भूखे हैं, इस का मुझे दुख नहीं है, मगर जब मैं कौरवों के पुत्रों को राजसी ठाठ में देखती हूं, तो मेरे हृदय में रोष की लहर दौड़ जाती है। यह स्वाभाविक भावना है, सभापति जी, और

[श्री वाजपेयी]

केन्द्रीय सरकार को प्रयत्न करना चाहिए इस भेद को कम करने का। ऊंची से ऊंची तनख्वाह तय नहीं की गई, मुनाफे पर कोई रोक नहीं लगाई गई। आर्डिनेंस जारी किया गया केन्द्रीय कर्मचारियों के खिलाफ मगर आर्डिनेंस कपड़े के दाम बढ़ाने वाले मिल-मालिकों के खिलाफ जारी नहीं हो सकता। मेरा निवेदन है कि यह जो प्रयत्न था, वह कोई सिविल पैवेलियन का प्रयत्न नहीं था। यह बड़े दुर्भाग्य की शब्दावली है, जिस का हमारे प्रधान मंत्री ने प्रयोग किया लेकिन आज देश में चारों ओर असन्तोष की बारूद फैली हुई है। ये तीसरे और चौथे दर्जे के केन्द्रीय कर्मचारी, विश्वविद्यालय में भर्ती होने के लिए स्थान न पाने वाले विद्यार्थी। यह असन्तोष कोई भी चिंगारी पा कर भड़क सकता है। आवश्यकता इस बात की है कि हड़ताल हमें एक झटके का काम दे। अगर हड़ताल का स्वागत किया जाये इस दृष्टि से कि उस ने हमें एक शाक ट्रीटमेंट दिया है, सारे देश को, सरकार को था, और अगर हम इस से लाभ उठा और ऐसी नीतियों का निर्धारण करें कि जिन से देश में मंहगाई न बढ़ने पाए, तो यह सब के लिए अच्छा होगा। अगर सरकार जीवन की आवश्यक वस्तुओं की कीमतों पर रोक लगाने में सफल नहीं होती, तो फिर वेतन और भत्ता बढ़ाने की मांग खड़ी होगी और सरकार का कोई कानून उस मांग को नहीं रोक सकता। मैं यह जानना चाहता कि सरकार हड़ताल की धमकी के ऊपर ही काम क्यों करती है। पे कमीशन की रिपोर्ट साल भर अलमारी में बन्द पड़ी रही, मगर उसे लागू नहीं किया गया। जब हड़ताल का संकट सिर पर आ गया, तब फिर फ़रमान जारी किए जाने लगे। हमारे प्रधान मंत्री जी ने भी अपने ब्राडकास्ट भाषण में इस बात पर खेद प्रकट किया है कि पे कमीशन की रिपोर्ट को लागू करने में देर हुई। इस देर के लिए कौन जिम्मेदार है?

एक माननीय सदस्य : सरकार।

श्री वाजपेयी : अगर सरकार जिम्मेदार है, तो सरकार को अपने तौर-तरीके बदलने चाहिएं। हड़ताल को रोकने के लिए कानून बनाने की जरूरत नहीं है। जिन कारणों से हड़ताल होती है, उन कारणों को दूर करने की जरूरत है। हड़ताल रोग का कारण नहीं है। हड़ताल तो रोग का प्रकटीकरण है और अगर कारण दूर किए जायेंगे, तो फिर प्रकटीकरण बन्द हो सकता है। मेरा निवेदन है कि सरकार इस प्रकार की व्यवस्था करे, इस प्रकार की मशीनरी बनाए जिस में केन्द्रीय कर्मचारियों के साथ अगर मत-भेद होते हैं, तो मिल कर, बैठकर, उन पर बात-चीत की जाये, उन्हें सुलझा लिया जाये और अगर मत-भेद हों, तो उन्हें अनिवार्य पंच फैसले के लिए सौंप दिया जाये, कम्पलसरी अरबिट्रेशन के लिए सौंप दिया जाए। मैं समझता हूं कि फिर हड़ताल की कोई आवश्यकता नहीं होगी। इस मामले में भी अगर सरकार चाहती, तो इंडस्ट्रियल डिस्प्यूट्स एक्ट की धारा १० के अनुसार हड़ताल को वर्चुअली बैन कर सकती थी और सारे मामले को पंच-फ़ैसले के लिए सौंप सकती थी। मगर शायद सरकार जोर-आजमाई करना चाहती थी और मुझे खेद है कि जिस ढंग से आई०एन०टी०यू०सी० ने काम किया। जब हड़ताल वापिस ले ली गई और रेलवे कर्मचारी लखनऊ के वर्कशाप में काम करने गए, तो वहां के डिपार्टमेंटल हैड ने उन्हीं कर्मचारियों को अन्दर जाने दिया, जिन्हें आई० एन० टी० यू० सी० वालों ने दरवाजे पर खड़े हो कर कहा कि हां, वे जा सकते हैं, दूसरे नहीं जा सकते हैं।

कुछ माननीय सदस्य : शेम, शेम।

कुछ माननीय सदस्य : गलत है।

कुछ माननीय सदस्य : ठीक है।

श्री काशीनाथ पांडे : यह बिल्कुल गलत है। माननीय सदस्य यह साबित नहीं कर सकते कि वहां पर आई०एन०टी०यू०सी० ने कुछ किया है।

श्री वाजपेयी : सभापति जी, मैं उस दिन लखनऊ में था। यह प्रत्यक्ष आखों देखी हुई बात है और आई०एन०टी०यू०सी० को चाहिए कि जरा अपने नेताओं को सम्भाल कर रखें। केन्द्रीय कर्मचारियों का विश्वास प्राप्त करने का यह तरीका नहीं है। बदले की भावना, प्रतिशोध की भावना ले कर आप कर्मचारियों का विश्वास प्राप्त नहीं कर सकते। मेरा निवेदन है कि जो कुछ हो गया, वह पुरानी गाथा थी, क दुःस्वपन था, जिस को हमें भूल जाना चाहिए और नए सम्बन्धों का श्रीगणेश करना चाहिए। मगर इस के लिए जो गिरफ्तार हैं, जेलों में पड़े हैं, नौकरियों से निकाले जा हैं, उन्हें वापस लेना चाहिए। और हिंसा का अर्थ यह ना लगाया जाये कि अगर किसी ने हड़ताल के लिए कहा, तो वह हिंसा में आता है और अगर किसी रेलवे कर्मचारी ने काम छोड़ने से पहले इंजन का कोयला निकाल दिया तो कहा कि तुम ने सैबोटेज किया।

रेलवे मंत्री (श्री जगजीवन राम): और क्या है?

श्री वाजपेयी : तो क्या वह रेलवे कर्मचारी इंजिन का कोयला इंजिन में ही छोड़ देता? वह भी सैबोटेज होता, क्योंकि उस से इंजिन खराब हो जाता। मेरा कहना यह है कि सैबोटेज और वायरलेस की परिभाषा इतनी लम्बी मत बनायें कि सरकार के जाल में सब फंस जायें।

श्री अ० मु० तारिक (जम्मू तथा काश्मीर) : जनाब चैयरमैन साहब, मैं मिस्टर नौशीर भरूचा की उस तहरीक की मुखालिफत करता हूं, जिस को उन्होंने इस ऐवान में लाया है। आपोजीशन पार्टीज के जिन जी-इज्जत मेम्बरान ने एस ऐवान में तकरीरें कीं, उन्होंने मुख्तलिफ बातों को हमारे सामने रखा। एक तो यह कि हुकूमत ने पे कमिशन की सिफारिशात को बहुत जल्दी अमल में नहीं लाया है। दूसरी यह कि जिन लोगों ने गलती की है, उन से गलती हुई है और यह गलती वगैर सोचे समझे हुई है, अचानक एक हादिसा हुआ है, उन के साथ रहम किया जाये, उन को जेलों से वापस लाया जाये और उन के साथ अच्छा सलूक किया जाये। तीसरी बात इस ऐवान में श्री अशोक मेहता ने रखी और वह यह कि यह हड़ताल बिल्कुल गैर-सियासी थी और प्रजा सोशलिस्ट पार्टी का बहैसियत एक जमायत इस से कोई ताल्लुक नहीं था। अशोक मेहता साहब की मैं इज्जत करता हूं, इस लहिाज से कि वह बहुत पुराने सियासी वर्कर हैं, लेकिन आज उन की तकरीर को सुन कर मुझे सख्त अफ़सोस हुआ है और वह इस लिए कि जिस तरह और जिस अंदाज से उन्होंने लातालुकी का इजहार किया, उस पर कोई शख्स यकीन नहीं कर सकता। यह हड़ताल सिर्फ सियासी थी। यह सिर्फ हड़ताल नहीं थी, बल्कि एक किस्म का ऐलाने-जंग किया गया इस मुल्क की हुकूमत के खिलाफ़। इस ऐवान के जी-इज्जत मेम्बरान उन दिनों की रिपोर्टस को देखें, अखबारी रिपोर्टस को देखें कि श्री नाथ पाई सुबह दिल्ली में हैं और शाम को बम्बई में हैं, हवाई जहाज से जा रहे हैं, रेल से जा रहे हैं, अफ़रा-तफ़री मचाई जा रही है, लोगों में एक खास किस्म का हैजान पैदा किया जा रहा है बिल्कुल उस अन्दाज से जब किसी मुल्क पर कोई बाहर की ताकत हमला कर रही हो और उस हमला करने वाली जमायत का मार्शल या कमांडर-इन-चीज एक महाज से दूसरे पर जा रहा हो।

श्री अजराज सिंह : मिनिस्टर साहबान रोज हवाई जहाज पर आते जाते हैं। वे किस पर हमला करने के लिए जाते हैं?

श्री अ० मु० तारिक : यह और बात है कि हालात ने और इस मुल्क के रहने वालों ने और हकूमत ने उनकी मकरूह साजिश को, जो इस मुल्क का निजम दरहम नरहम करने के लिए की गई थी, नाकाम बना दिया और वे आज बिल्कुल एक मुनजिम की हैसियत से, एक ऐसे आदमी की हैसियत से, जो कि जहनी तौर पर नाबालिग हो, हम से दरख्वास्त करने आए हैं, इस ऐवान से दरख्वास्त करने आए हैं कि रहम कीजिए। उन को उस वक्त सोचना चाहिए था कि वे मुल्क को किस तबाही की तरफ ले जा रहे हैं, जिस वक्त उन्होंने स्ट्राइक का नारा लगाया और यही नहीं, बल्कि लोगों को मजबूर किया तहरीक चलाने पर, अफसरों पर हमले किए, हमले करवाए उन लोगों पर, उन गरीबों वर्कर्ज पर, जो इस मुल्क के वफादार शहरी हैं और जो चाहते थे कि हुकूमत का काम रुकने न पाए। हकीकत यह है कि हमारे सामने जो तवारीख है, वह यह है कि पिछले चन्द महीनों से—तकरीबन एक साल से—इस मुल्क की सियासत में जो रोग पी०एस० पी० ने पैदा किया है, हमारे ताल्लुकात जिस अन्दाज से हमारे हमसाया मुल्कों से खराब करने के लिए पी०एस०पी० ने कोशिश की है, वह किसी और ने नहीं किया। जब उन लोगों को शिकस्त हुई और ऐसी शिकस्त हुई कि उन का एक सियासी जमायत की हैसियत से इस मुल्क में कायम रहना नागवार हो गया, तब उन्होंने स्ट्राइक का बहाना बनाया। यह और बात है कि कम्यूनिस्ट पार्टी भी इस चक्कर में आ गई इस लिहाज से कि वे मजदूरों के रहनुमा हैं, इस लिहाज से कि उन की एक थ्योरी है कि इस दुनियां में हमेशा, चाहे गलत हो या दुरुस्त, अपनी जमायत को कायम करने के लिए कम्यूनिस्टों को मजदूरों का साथ देना पड़ता है। कम्युनिस्टों का यह नजरिया दुरुस्त होगा, लेकिन मजदूरों को गलत रास्ते पर डालने के लिए उनका इश्तराक एक ऐसी जमायत से हुआ जिस ने हर मौके पर उन को इस मुल्क का गद्दार कहा, यह कहा कि इन का हर एक्ट जो होता है, वह इस मुल्क की सियासत के मुताबिक नहीं होता है, बल्कि किसी बाहर की ताकत से होता है। इस से जाहिर होता है कि किस तरह इस मुल्क में मुखालिफ जमायतों का इश्तराक हो सकता है। मतलब यह था कि इस मुल्क की इडमिनिस्ट्रेशन को खत्म किया जाए। स्ट्राइक इसलिए नहीं थी कि यहां के मजदूरों को, यहां के आर्डिनेरी क्लर्क्स को या मामूली अफसरों को कोई फायदा पहुंचाया जाए। यह जंग सिर्फ सियासी जंग थी।

हमें चाहिये कि हम उस वक्त जो बयानात निकाले गए उनको देखें। खुद पी० एन्ड टी० वर्कर्स दिल्ली के जनरल सैक्रेटरी ने जो बयानात दिये उन में उन्होंने श्री नाथ पाई के रोल को बेनकाब किया और बताया कि किस तरह वह जिस बात को एक्शन कमेटी में कहते हैं उन को बाहर बिल्कुल नहीं कहते हैं, उसकी मुखालिफत करते हैं किस तरह से उन्होंने छोटे छोटे वर्कर्स को गलत बातें बता कर, गलत वाकात की बिना पर गलत रास्ते पर ला खड़ा कर दिया, यह किसी से छिपा नहीं है। मैं समझता हूं कि इस मुल्क में रहने वाले लोग मुबारिकबाद के मुस्तहिक हैं जिन्होंने कि इस साजिश को, इस स्ट्राइक को नाकाम बना दिया है।

अब हमारे सामने मसला यह है कि हम उन लोगों के साथ जिन्होंने यह स्ट्राइक की, क्या सलूक करें, हम इस मुल्क में उनके साथ क्या रवैय्या अख्तियार करें। यह ठीक है कि वे भी इस मुल्क के शहरी हैं, उनमें बहुत से अच्छे लोग भी हैं, छोटे छोटे लोग भी हैं, समझदार लोग भी हैं। कुछ लोग ऐसे भी हैं जो गलत रास्ते पर चले गए किसी एक्शन की वजह से, मजबूरी के डर से, हमले के डर से। मैं हकूमत के सामने तजवीज रखना चाहता हूं कि ऐसे लोगों के साथ जिन्होंने स्ट्राइक में हिस्सा लिया जायज सलूक किया

जाए। उनके जो मुतालिबात हैं, उनको देखा जाए, उनकी जो शिकायत हैं उनको दूर किया जाए और इसमें कोई शक नहीं है कि उनको देखा जाएगा। बहुत से मजदूर हैं जिनको बहुत दूर जा कर बसाया गया है और उनकी मुश्किलात पर गौर होना चाहिये। जिस हद तक नुमकिन हो सके उनके एलाउसंज में, उनकी तनख्वाहों में इजाफा होना चाहिए। लेकिन में कहना चाहता हूं कि जिन लोगों ने स्ट्राइक को अपने सियासी मकासिद के लिए चलाया उनके साथ किसी किस्म का रहम न किया जाए, उनके साथ बिल्कुल वही सलूक किया जाए जिस की कानून इजाजत देता है।

एक और बात कही जाती है। कहा जाता है कि हमारे वजीरे आजम बहुत अच्छे आदमी हैं, बेचारे बहुत नेक हैं, शायद वह नर्मी कर जायें। मैं कहना चाहता हूं कि इस तरह की कोई नर्मी नहीं होनी चाहिये। यह हकूमत कोई तानाशाही हकूमत नहीं है, अकबरशाही नहीं है जहां जंजीर खींच कर इंसाफ मांगा जा सकता है। यहां पर कवानीन चलते हैं। अगर कोई शख्स किसी का दांत तोड़ता है, तो उसके लिए कानून है और कानून के मुताबिक जो सजा उसको मिल सकती है, मिलनी चाहिये। अगर वजीरे-आजम बहुत अच्छे आदमी हैं, बहुत नेक आदमी हैं, बहुत शरीफ आदमी हैं तो इसका यह मतलब नहीं है कि किसी ऐसे शख्स के साथ जिसने मुल्क के आईन के साथ, मुल्क के निजाम के साथ बगावत करने की कोशिश की उसको माफ कर दिया जाए।

वाजपेयी जी ने कहा कि वजीरेआजम साहब ने मुलाकात से इन्कार किया। मैं कहना चाहता हूं कि उस शख्स के साथ मुलाकात हो सकती है जिस के साथ कोई जवाबियत हो, जो शख्स दोस्ती का हाथ बढ़ा कर आए लेकिन ऐसे शख्स के साथ ऐसी जमायत के साथ कैसे वजीरेआजम मुलाकात कर सकते हैं जो धमकी देती हो, हकूमत का तख्ता उलटने की कोशिश करती हो हड़ताल के नक्शे के तहत। यह सब जानते हुए अगर वजीरे-आजम उनको मुलाकात बख्शते तो न मालूम बाहर के लोगों में जा कर क्या कहा जाता कि वह इतने कमजोर निकले कि इश शान के साथ उन्होंने हम लोगों को रिर्माव किया और इसको ले कर फिर से लोगों में तफरका पैदा करने की कोशिश शुरू हो जाती। हम एक्शन उसका जो इस हड़ताल को दबाने में हमारी हकूमत ने, एडमिनिस्ट्रेशन ने, वजीरे-आजम ने और दूसरी जमायतों ने लिया तारीफ करते हैं और उन सब को इस के लिए मुबारिकबाद पेश करते हैं। इसके साथ ही मैं उस तजवीज की जो श्री भरूचा साहब ने हाउस के सामने पेश की है, मुखालिफत करता हूं।

[شری اے - ایم - طارق — جموں تھا کشمیر) - جناب چیرمین صاحب - میں مسٹر نوشیر بھروچہ کی اس تحریک کی مخالفت کرتا ہوں جسکو انہوں نے اس ایوان میں لیا ہے - آپوزیشن پارٹیز کے جن ذی عزت ممبران نے اس ایوان میں تقریریں کیں انہوں نے مختلف باتوں کو ہمارے سامنے رکھا - ایک تو یہ کہ حکومت نے پے کمیشن کی سفارشات کو بہت جلدی عمل میں نہیں لایا ہے - دوسری یہ کہ جن لوگوں نے غلطی کی ہے ان سے غلطی ہوئی ہے اور یہ غلطی وغیرہ سوچے سمجھے ہوئی ہے - اچانک ایک حادثہ ہوا ہے - ان کے ساتھ رحم کیا جائے - ان کو جیلوں سے واپس لیا جائے اور ان کے ساتھ اچھا سلوک کیا جائے - تیسری بات اس ایوان میں شری اشوک مہتہ نے رکھی

श्री राज राज सिंह : मिनिस्टर साहबान रोज़ हवाई जहाज़ पर आते जाते हैं। वे किस पर हमला करने के लिए जाते हैं ?

शरी ए - ایم - طارق - یہ اور بات ہے کہ حالات نے اور اس ملک کے رہنے والوں نے اور حکومت نے انکی اس مکروہ سازش کو - جو اس ملک کا نظام درہم برہم کرنے کے لئے کی گئی تھی - ناکام بنا دیا اور وہ آج بالکل ایک ملزم کی حیثیت سے - ایک ایسے آدمی کی حیثیت سے - جوکہ ذہنی طور پر نابالغ ہو - ہم سے درخواست کرنے آئے ہیں - اس ایوان سے درخواست کرنے آئے ہیں کہ رحم کیجئے - ان کو اس وقت سوچنا چاہئے تھا کہ وہ ملک کو کس تباہی کی طرف لے جا رہے ہیں جس وقت اِنہوں نے سٹرائک کا نعرہ لگایا اور یہی نہیں بلکہ لوگوں کو مجبور کیا تحریک چلانے پر - افسروں پر حملے کئے - حملے کروائے ان لوگوں پر - ان غریب ورکرز پر جو اس ملک کے وفادار شہری ہیں اور جو چاہتے تھے کہ حکومت کا کام رکنے نہ پائے - حقیقت یہ ہے کہ ہمارے سامنے جو تواریخ ہے وہ یہ ہے کہ پچھلے چند مہینوں سے — تقریباً ایک سال سے — اس ملک کی سیاست میں جو روگ پی - ایس - پی - نے پیدا کیا ہے - ہمارے تعلقات جس انداز سے ہمارے ہمسایہ ملکوں سے خواب کرنے کے لئے پی - ایس - پی - نے کوشش کی ہے - وہ کسی اور نے

[شری اے - ایم - طارق]

اور وہ یہ کہ یہ ہوتال بالکل غیر سیاسی تھی اور پرجا سوشلسٹ پارٹی کا بحیثیت ایک جماعت کے اس سے کوئی تعلق نہیں تھا - اشوک مہتہ صاحب کی میں عزت کرتا ہوں اس لحاظ سے کہ وہ بہت پرانے سیاسی ورکر ہیں لیکن آج ان کی تقریر کو سن کر مجھے سخت افسوس ہوا ہے اور وہ اس لئے کہ جس طرح اور جس انداز سے انہوں نے لا تعلقی کا اظہار کیا اس پر کوئی شخص یقین نہیں کر سکتا - یہ ہوتال صرف سیاسی تھی - یہ صرف ہوتال نہیں تھی بلکہ ایک قسم کا اعلان جنگ کیا گیا اس ملک کی حکومت کے خلاف - اس ایوان کے ذی عزت ممبرلن ان دنوں کی رپورٹس کو دیکھیں - اخباری رپورٹس کو دیکھیں کہ شری نانہ پائی صبح دہلی میں ہیں اور شام کو بمبئی میں ہیں - ہوائی جہاز سے آ رہے ہیں - ریل سے جا رہے ہیں - افوا تفری مچائی جا رہی ہے - لوگوں میں ایک خاص قسم کا ہیجان پیدا کیا جا رہا ہے بالکل اس انداز سے جب کسی ملک پر کوئی باہر کی طاقت حملہ کر رہی ہو اور اس حملہ کرنے والی جماعت کا مارشل یا کمانڈر ان چیف ایک محاذ سے دوسرے محاذ پر جا رہا ہو -

ہمیں چاہئیے کہ ہم اس وقت جو بیانات نکالے گئے ان کو دیکھیں - خود پی - ایلڈ ٹی - ورکرس دلی کے جنرل سیکریٹری نے جو بیانات دئے ان میں انہوں نے شہری ناتھ پائی کے رول کو بے نقاب کیا اور بتایا کہ کس طرح وہ جس بات کو ایکشن کمیٹی میں کہتے ہیں اس کو باہر بالکل نہیں کہتے ہیں - اس کی مخالفت کرتے ہیں - کس طرح سے انہوں نے چھوٹے چھوٹے ورکرس کو غلط باتیں بتا کر غلط واقعات کی بنا پر غلط راستے پر لا کھڑا کر دیا - یہ کسی سے چھپا ہوا نہیں ہے - میں سمجھتا ہوں کہ اس ملک میں رہنے والے لوگ مبارکباد کے مستحق ہیں جنہوں نے اس سازش کو - اس سٹرائک کو ناکام بنا دیا ہے -

اب ہمارے سامنے مسئلہ یہ ہے کہ ہم ان لوگوں کے ساتھ جنہوں نے یہ سٹرائک کی کیا سلوک کریں - ہم اس ملک میں ان کے ساتھ کیا رویہ اختیار کریں - یہ ٹھیک ہے کہ وہ بھی اس ملک کے شہری ہیں - ان میں بہت سے اچھے لوگ بھی ہیں - چھوٹے چھوٹے لوگ بھی ہیں - سمجھ-دار لوگ بھی ہیں - کچھ لوگ ایسے بھی ہیں جو غلط راستے پر چلے گئے کسی ایکشن کی وجہ سے - مجبوری کے کے ڈر سے - حملے کے ڈر سے - میں حکومت کے سامنے ایک تجویز رکھنا چاہتا ہوں کہ ایسے لوگوں کے ساتھ نہیں کیا - جب ان لوگوں کو شکست ہوئی اور ایسی شکست ہوئی کہ ان کا ایک سیاسی جماعت کی حیثیت سے اس ملک میں رہنا ناگوار ہو گیا تب انہوں نے سٹرائیک کا بہانہ بنایا - یہ اور بات ہے کہ کمیونسٹ پارٹی بھی اس چکر میں آ گئی اس لحاظ سے کہ وہ مزدوروں کے رہنما ہیں و س لحاظ سے کہ ایک تحریری ہے کہ اس دنیا میں ہمیشہ — چاہے غلط ہو یا درست — اپنی جماعت کو قائم کرنے کیلئے کمیونسٹوں کو مزدوروں کا ساتھ دینا پڑتا ہے - کمیونسٹوں کا یہ نظریہ درست ہوگا لیکن مزدوروں کو غلط راستے پر ڈالنے کے لئے انکا اشتوان ایک ایسی جماعت سے ہوا جس نے ہر موقعے پر انکو اس ملک کا غدار کہا - یہ کہا کہ ان کا ہر ایکٹ جو ہوتا ہے وہ اس ملک کی سیاست کے مطابق نہیں ہوتا ہے بلکہ کسی باہر کی طاقت سے ہوتا ہے - اس سے ظاہر ہوتا ہے کہ کس طرح اس ملک میں مخالف جماعتوں کا اشتران ہو سکتا ہے - مطلب یہ تھا کہ اس ملک کی ایڈمنسٹریشن کو ختم کیا جائے -

سٹرائیک اس لئے نہیں تھی کہ یہاں کے مزدوروں کو - یہاں کے آرڈیلری کلارکس کو یا معمولی افسروں کو کوئی فائدہ پہنچایا جائے - یہ جنگ صرف سیاسی جنگ تھا -

[شری اے - ایم - طارق]

ملنی چاهئے - اگر وزیر اعظم بهت اچهے آدمی هیں - بهت نیک آدمی هیں - شریف آدمی هیں تو اسکا یه مطلب نهیں هے که کسی ایسے شخص کے ساتهه جس نے ملک کے آئین کے ساتهه ملک کے نظام کے ساتهه غداری کرنے کی کوشش کی اس کو معاف کر دیا جائے -

واجپائی جی نے کها که وزیر اعظم صاحب نے ملاقات سے انکار کیا - میں کهنا چاهتا هوں که اس شخص کے ساتهه ملاقات هو سکتی هے جس کے ساتهه کوئی جوازیت هو - جو شخص دوستی کا هاتهه بڑها کر آئے لیکن ایسے شخص کے ساتهه - ایسی جماعت کے ساتهه کیسے وزیر اعظم ملاقات کر سکتے هیں جو دهمکی دیتی هو - حکومت کا تختہ الٹنے کی کوشش کرتی هو هڑتال کے نقشہ کے تحت - یه سب جانتے هوئے اگر وزیر اعظم ان کو ملاقات بخشتے تو نه معلوم باهر کے لوگوں میں جا کر کیا کها جاتا که وه اتنے کمزور نکل آئے که اس شان کے ساتهه انهوں نے هم لوگوں کو رسیو کیا اور اس کو لے کر پهر سے لوگوں میں تفرقه پیدا کرنے کی کوشش شروع هو جاتی - هم اس ایکشن کا جو اس هڑتال کو دبانے میں هماری حکومت نے - ایڈمنسٹریشن نے - وزیر اعظم نے اور دوسری جماعتوں نے لیا تعریف کرتے هیں اور اِن سب کو اس کے لئے جنهوں نے سٹرائک میں حصه لیا جائز سلوک کیا جائے - اِ کے جو مطالبات هیں ان کو دیکها جائے - ان کی جو شکایات هیں ان کو دور کیا جائے اور اس میں کوئی شک نهیں هے که ان کو دیکها جائیگا - بهت سے مزدور هیں جن کو بهت دور جا کر بسایا گیا هے اور ان کی مشکلات پر غور هونا چاهئے - جس حد تک ممکن هو سکے ان کے الائنسس میں - ان کی تنخواهوں میں اضافه هونا چاهئے - لیکن میں کهنا چاهتا هوں که جن لوگوں نے سٹرائک کو اپنے سیاسی مقاصد کے لئے چلایا ان کے ساتهه کسی قسم کا رحم نه کیا جائے - ان کے ساتهه بالکل وهی سلوک کیا جائے جس کی قانون اجازت دیتا هے -

ایک اور بات کهی جاتی هے - کها جاتا هے که همارے وزیر اعظم بهت اچهے آدمی هیں - بیچارے بهت نیک هیں - شاید کچهه نرمی کر جائیں - میں کهنا چاهتا هوں که اس طرح کی کوئی نرمی نهیں هونی چاهئے یه حکومت کوئی ناناشاهی حکومت نهیں هے - اکبرشاهی نهیں هے جهاں زنجیر کهینچ کر انصاف مانگا جا سکتا هے - یهاں پر قوانین چلتے هیں - اگر کوئی شخص کسی کا دانت توڑتا هے تو اسکے لئے قانوں هے اور قانوں کے مطابق جو سزا اس کو مل سکتی هے

مبارکباد پیش کرتے ہیں - اس کے ساتھ ہی میں اس تجویز کی جو شری بھروچا صاحب نے ہاوس کے سامنے پیش کی ہے - مخالفت کرتا ہوں -]

श्री रामसिंह भाई वर्मा (निमाड़) : सभापति महोदय, सब से पहले में जनता को मुबारिकबाद देता हूं कि जिस ने इस राजनीतिक षड़यंत्र को अच्छी तरह से समझ कर हमारे देश को और सरकारी कर्मचारियों को एक बड़े खतरे से बचा लिया है ।

श्रीमान, सवाल यह आज पैदा नहीं होता है कि सरकारी कर्मचारियों को क्या मिलना चाहिये और क्या नहीं मिलना चाहिये। सवाल यह पैदा होता है कि हड़ताल किस आधार पर हुई और हड़ताल के बीच में किस ने क्या क्या किया। यह हड़ताल राजनीतिक थी, इसमें कोई सन्देह नहीं है। यह आर्थिक हड़ताल नहीं थी। मैं श्री अशोक मेहता जी की ईमानदारी पर जरा भी शक नहीं करता हूं । उन्होंने कहा है कि प्रजा सोशलिस्ट पार्टी का इसमें कोई हिस्सा नहीं था। यह बात ठीक हो सकती है । लेकिन सवाल यह है कि आज प्रजा सोशलिस्ट पार्टी की क्या हालत है, यह समझ लेना चाहिये। श्रीमान, मैं एक उदाहरण देना चाहता हूं। बरसात के दिनों में यमुना जी के अन्दर बहुत पानी चढ़ता है आ रहा था और बहुत से जानवर बहते हुए आ रहे थे। उसके किनारे दो साधु खड़े हुए थे। यमुना जी के पानी में एक रीछड़ी भी बहती आ रही थी। उन साधुओं ने समझा कि यह कम्बल है। एक साधु यमुना जी में कूदा और उसने जा करके कम्बल को पकड़ा लिया और उस ने उस साधु को पकड़ लिया । रीछड़ी ने उस को पकड़ लिया और उसने उसको पकड़ लिया अब वह रीछड़ी साधु के दोनों हाथ पकड़ कर बहने लगी। दूसरा साधु जो किनारे खड़ा था कहने लगा कि अगर कम्बल नहीं आता है तो इसको छोड़ दे, नहीं तो बह जाएगा। उस साधु ने दबाव दिया कि मैं तो इसको छोड़ूंगा मगर यह भी तो मुझ को छोड़े, इसी ने तो मुझे पकड़ कर रखा है जो छोड़ नहीं रही है। यही हाल प्रजा सोशलिस्ट पार्टी का है। वह जो कम्युनिस्ट पार्टी के चुंगल में फंस गई है, उसने वह निकल नहीं पा रही है और इसका नतीजा यह हो रहा है कि प्रजा सोशलिस्ट पार्टी का सारे का सारा जो प्रोग्राम है, सारी की सारी उसकी जो नीति है, उसको वह भूल गई है। यह बात मैं दावे के साथ कह सकता हूं और इसके मेरे पास सबूत हैं।

वाजपेयी जी ने एक बात कही है कि साहब एन वक्त तक इनकी हड़ताल की तैयारी नहीं थी। मैं समझता हूं कि यह ठीक है। इन्होंने वैनट ले लिया, हड़ताल की घोषणा भी कर दी, यह सब मैं मानता हूं। लेकिन मैं समझता हूं कि इससे बढ़ कर भयंकर गद्दारी कर्मचारियों के साथ और क्या हो सकती है कि एक तरफ आग लगाते जा रहे हैं, कहते जा रहे हैं कि फलां तारीख से हड़ताल हो और दूसरी तरफ कोई तैयार नहीं है! इसका मतलब यह हुआ कि यह राजनीतिक हड़ताल थी, ट्रेड यूनियन हड़ताल नहीं थी।

अब हमें देखना है कि कर्मचारियों की क्या डिमांड्स थीं, शासकीय कर्मचारियों की क्या डिमांड्स थीं । इसमें कोई शक नहीं है कि उनको तकलीफें थीं, उनको कष्ट थे और उनको दूर कराने के लिए एजिटेशन हुआ । आई० एन० टी० यू० सी० तथा दूसरी ट्रेड यूनियंस ने भी उनको दूर करने की मांग की। उस एजीटेशन के आधार पर पे कमिशन कायम हुआ । अगर उस वक्त पे कमिशन कायम नहीं होता और सरकार सुनने के लिए तैयार नहीं होती तो मैं मानता हूं कि हड़ताल का सवाल, गम्भीर रूप में पैदा हो सकता था। लेकिन लेबर पालिसी इस पार्लिमेंट ने पहली योजना में और दूसरी योजना में तय की और वह थी कोलेक्टिव बारगेनिंग की । कोई भी सवाल अगर पैदा होता है ट्रेड यूनियंस और

[श्री रामसिंह भाई वर्मा]

एम्पलायर में तो उसका हल कलैक्टिव बारगेनिंग से हो सकता था, आपस में बातचीत करके हो सकता था । अगर कोई डिस्प्यूट आपस में सैटल नहीं होता तो उसका इलाज यह बताया गया कि उसको आर्बिट्रेशन के लिए सौंपा जा सकता है, ट्रिब्यूनल को सौंपा जा सकता है, वेज बोर्ड और पे कमिशन कायम किया जा सकता है । इस केस में श्रीमान् सरकार ने पे कमिशन कायम किया और पे कमिशन कायम करने के बाद फिर हड़ताल का सवाल ही नहीं पैदा होता । यह बात जरूर है कि पे कमिशन ने जो कहा उसको सरकार को मान लेना चाहिये था और एम्पलायीज को भी मान लेना चाहिये था । अगर पे कमिशन ने जो कहा है उसको आर्बिट्रेरीली बदल दिया जाता है, अपनी मर्जी से बदल दिया जाता है तो फिर कर्मचारियों को भी यह अधिकार हो जायेगा कि वे भी दूसरी बात मनवाने के लिए सरकार पर जोर डालें और उसको बदलवायें ।

हमारे प्रधान मंत्री ने हड़ताल के पहले एक ब्राडकास्ट किया । मैं समझता हूं कि उस वक्त हमारे प्रधान मंत्री पहल बार झुके । मेरी जीवन में उनका इस प्रकार झुकना पहला मौका था । लेकिन मैं समझता हूं कि देश के इंटरेस्ट में झुकना भी पड़ता है और झुकना चाहिये भी । उन्होंने बड़ी नम्रता के साथ कहा कि बातचीत हो सकती है, चर्चा के लिए दर्वाजा खुला है, उसके लिए हम हमेशा तैयार हैं । मैं निवेदन करना चाहता हूं कि हमारे प्रधान मंत्री हड़ताल के विरोधी नहीं हैं । जब से मैंने होश सम्भाला है मुझे अच्छी तरह से याद है कि उन्होंने कभी जायज हड़ताल का विरोध नहीं किया है । जब भी देश के अन्दर संकट आया है और जब वह प्रधान मंत्री भी नहीं थे, कांग्रेस के प्रेजीडेंट कभी रहे कभी नहीं रहे, और हड़ताल हुई है तो उन्होंने जायज हड़ताल का बराबर उसका समर्थन किया है । जब आई० एन० टी० यू० सी० नहीं थी, ट्रेड यूनियन कांग्रेस थी, उस वक्त एक मौका ऐसा आया जब कि वह बाहर से जब अलाहाबाद आये थे तो वहां के रेलवे कुलियों ने हड़ताल कर रखी थी । जब वह स्टेन पर पहुंचे तो कुलियों ने कहा कि श्री जवाहरलाल नेहरू जी आये हैं और उनको सामान उठाने के लिए कोई कुली नजर नहीं आ रहा है चलो उनका सामान तो उठा दें, तो उस वक्त प्रधान मंत्री नेहरूजी ने कहा कि मेरा सामान मत उठाना, मैं हड़ताल को नहीं तोड़ने दूंगा । तो मेरा निवेदन यह है कि प्रधान मंत्री जी अपनी स्थिति को एक तरफ रख कर हमेशा ही एम्पलायीज की तरफ झुके हैं ।

बल्कि मेरा उनके खिलाफ एक चार्ज भी है, आई० एन० टी० यू० सी० वालों का चार्ज भी है कि आप ने आई० एन० टी० यू० सी० को कमजोर कर दिया है । आई० एन० टी० यू० सी० सही नीति पर चलती है । आप ने लेबर पालिसी जो ठहराई है पंच वर्षीय योजनाओं के लिये, इंडियन लेबर कांफरेंस ने जो पालिसी ठहराई है, उस के अनुसार हम चलते हैं । मैं आप से यह निवेदन करना चाहता हूं कि हमारे विरोधी पार्टी वाले जो यूनियनें चला रहे हैं । हमारी एक यूनियन है इन्दौर में । उस यूनियन के मुकाबले में सारी यूनियनों को मिला कर आप बता दें कि उन के पास क्या प्रापर्टी है, क्या साधन हैं । लेकिन आप लोग तो ऐन वक्त तक हड़ताल के लिये तैयार नहीं थे । हड़ताल हम ने चलाई है और उस वक्त में चलाई है जब नन्दा जी हमारे लीडर थे और गांधी जी, पंडित जी और आचार्य कृपालानी जी के आशीर्वाद ले कर हम हड़ताल के लिये दो, दो, तीन तीन महीने पहले से तैयारी करते थे । रात के ११, ११ बजे तक मजदूरों के घर पर जाते थे, नन्दा जी हमारे आगे होते थे । सुबह ४ बजे उठ कर मुहल्लों में पहुंचते थे, और इस तरह से दस दस महीनों तक हड़तालें चलाई हैं । यह क्या हड़ताल है कि नेता पहले ही जा कर जेलों में बैठ गये ? आगे होते ही नहीं । जैसे एक बुढ़िया होती है,

जब कोई बुढ़िया की ओर देखता ही नहीं, कोई उस की सुनता नहीं, लड़के नहीं सुनते, दूसरे नहीं सुनते, तो बुढ़िया कहती है : "हे भगवान, मुझे उठा लो", उसी तरह से यह हैं कि "हे जेल वालो, हमें उठा लो"। कुछ उससे लेना नहीं कुछ देना नहीं। यह हाल है हमारे बिरादरों का और ट्रेड यूनियन मूवमेंट चलाने वालों का।

अभी हमारे अशोक मेहता साहब ने एक बड़े मजे की बात कही कि साहब २० प्रतिशत कर्मचारियों ने नहीं ५० प्रतिशत कर्मचारियों ने हड़ताल की उन्होंने बताया कि टोटल एम्प्लायीज में से २५ परसेन्ट ने बैलट दिया और उन "२५ परसेन्ट बैलट देने वालों में से ५० परसेन्ट ने ही हड़ताल की। यह तो केवल साढ़े बारह परसेन्ट हुए, २० परसेन्ट भी कहां हैं ? अशोक मेहता साहब ने कहा कि ५० परसेन्ट ने हड़ताल की। लेकिन नहीं, अशोक मेहता साहब के हिसाब के अनुसार तो सिर्फ साढ़े बारह परसेन्ट लोगों ने ही हड़ताल की।

श्री अशोक मेहता : अशोक मेहता के नहीं, जनाब, सरकार के हिसाब के मुताबिक।

श्री रामसिंह भाई वर्मा : मैं ने आप की बात सुनी है, सरकार के फिगर्स नहीं देखे।

श्री अशोक मेहता : आप अखबार नहीं पढ़ते, अखबार पढ़ते तो पता लगता कि सरकार क्या कहती है।

श्री रामसिंह भाई वर्मा : सवाल यह है कि कुल २२ लाख एम्प्लायीज दरअसल हैं और उन के अन्दर से सिर्फ २ लाख एम्प्लायीज ने हड़ताल की और वह हड़ताल हो गई। बड़े मजे की बात है। अभी तक मैं विरोधियों से सुनता आया था बाहर और इंडियन लेबर कांफ्रेंस में भी कहा जाता था कि अगर किसी यूनियन की २५ परसेन्ट मेम्बरशिप होती है तो उसे मान्यता क्यों देते हो ? ७५ परसेन्ट पर २५ परसेन्ट को क्यों लादते हो ? लेकिन यहां साढ़े बारह परसंट को लादने की कोशिश की। यह आप का हिसाब है ? फिर हड़ताल करा कर ये लोग बैठ गये और कहते हैं कि राजनीतिक हड़ताल नहीं थी। मैं हड़ताल के दर्म्यान सारे हिन्दुस्तान में घूमा हूं। कम्यूनिस्ट पार्टी के लोग बम्बई करते थे, कलकत्ते के अन्दर बत्तियां गुल कर मीटिंग करते थे, इन्दौर में मीटिंग करते थे और यह कहते थे कि हमें तो सरकार को उलटना है। मैं मानता हूं कि सरकार को उलटना है, लेकिन किस तरह से सरकार को उलटना है ? जनता को आप खतरे में डालकर अगर आप को कांग्रेस पार्टी को खत्म करना है तो कीजिये न। आप लगाइये ताकत। लेकिन दम नहीं, कोई शक्ति नहीं। लेकिन आप खत्म किस को करने जा रहे हैं ? आप देश के ग़रीब वर्ग को जो कि देश को बनाने जा रहा है, उस को खत्म करने जा रहे हैं। आप ने क्या ठहराया ? आप ने यह ठहराया कि जो हमारे स्वयंसेवक डाक बांटने जाते थे मुहल्लों में उन को मारा जाये। मैं मानता हूं कि हमारे पंडित जी और होम मिनिस्टर के पास आई० डी० सी० की रिपोर्ट आई होंगी कि उन लोगों ने पब्लिक मीटिंगों में कहा कि जो डाक ले कर आते हैं उन से डाक छीन लीजिये और स्वयम् सेवकों को मारियों। बड़े दुःख की बात है, चलती हुई ट्रेनों के सामने बैठ और लेट कर गाड़ियों को रोकना और पैसेन्जरों पर पत्थर फेंकना, यह आप की ट्रेड यूनियन मूवमेंट है या गुंडागिरी है ? इसे कोई भी ट्रेड यूनियन मूवमेंट नहीं कह सकता। ट्रेड यूनियन मूवमेंट इस का नाम है कि हम कहते हैं कि फलां तारीख से हड़ताल होगी और हम हड़ताल के लिये सरकार पहले से पूरी पूरी तैयारी करें जवाबदार बनें। जो हड़ताल करना चाहता हो वह खुशी से बाहर रहे और जो न करना चाहता हो वह अन्दर जाय। सही टेस्ट यह है। इस के अलावा कुछ नहीं। वैसे तो डाकू भी काम करते हैं और अपना अलग तरीका रखते हैं।

17 hrs.

सारे लोग काम करते हैं। गांधी जी ने हमें एक तरीका समझाया। प्रजा सोशलिस्ट पार्टी

[श्री रामसिंह भाई वर्मा]

भी उस की हामी है । वे भी अब जबर्दस्त गांधीवादी बन गये हैं । जब सन् १९१९ में अहमदाबाद के अन्दर मजदूर संघ स्थापित करके व्यवस्थित संघ चलाने की बात आई और गांधी जी से हम ने उस का उद्घाटन कराया तो गांधी जी ने एक बात कही कि देखो, इस तरह के संगठन बनाने के पक्ष में मैं नहीं हूं झगड़ा करने के लिये मजदूरों का आप एक संगठन कर झगड़ालुओं का टोला बनायें । यह ग़लत बात है । आप मजदूरों का संगठन कीजिये, लेकिन उन्हें समाज का उपयोगी अंग बनाइये । ट्रेड यूनियन के सामने यह पहली मिसाल रक्खी गांधी जी ने, जिसे प्रजा सोशलिस्ट पार्टी को भी ले कर चलना चाहिये । हमारे सोशलिस्ट भाई जो बैठे हुए हैं, जो खुद गांधी जी की बात करते हैं, उन को भी समझना चाहिये और हम को भी समझना चाहिये । हां, एक बात हम मान सकते हैं कि कम्यूनिस्टों के सामने देश का कोई सवाल नहीं, उन के सामने हिन्दुस्तान के हित का कोई सवाल नहीं, उन की कोई नेशनल पालिसी नहीं है, लेकिन आप हम सब के सामने तो ऐसा नहीं है । यहां पर मैं जोश में नहीं बोल रहा हूं, मैं होश में बोल रहा हूं । मैं अपने मित्रों से यह पूछना चाहता हूं कि जब आप ने स्ट्राइक कालं किया तो क्या वह पे कमिशन रिपोर्ट से सम्बन्धित था । अशोक मेहता जी ने, श्री नौशीर भरूचा ने और बहुत से मित्रों ने इंडियन लेबर कांफ्रेंश की की बात की कि १५वें लेबर कांफ्रेंस में जो अमुख अमुख निर्णय हुए हैं उन के अनुसार डिअरनेस अलाउंस और मिनमम वेजेज का फिक्सेशन नहीं हुआ है । मैं इसी बात के ऊपर जोर दे रहा हूं कि इंडियन लेबर कांफ्रेंस में यह भी निर्णय हुआ है कि इस के सम्बन्ध में सही प्रोसीजर कौन सा है । सही प्रोसीजर यह नहीं है कि पंच ने एक फैसला दिया और आप यह कहें कि पंच ने अपने फैसले में चूंकि यह बात नहीं कही है इस लिये हम हड़ताल करते हैं । उस में यह चीज नहीं है कि कोई पंच या ट्राइब्यूनल अपना फैसला दे, उस के बाहर की बात कही जाय । आप कहते हैं कि बोर्ड या पे कमिशन ने चूंकि अपनी रिपोर्ट में यह बात नहीं लिखी इस लिये इस तरह से होना चाहिये । पे कमिशन ने इस में कहा है डिअरनेस अलाउंस के बारे में भी कि उस को किस तरह से कास्ट आफ लिविंग इंडेक्स में लिंक किया जा सकता है और यह कि मिनिमम वेजेज हमारी किस आधार पर होनी चाहियें ।

मैं श्री अशोक मेहता साहब की बात कहता हूं, वे टैक्सटाइल वेज बोर्ड के अन्दर थे । मैं वह शख्स था जिसने टैक्सटाइल के सम्बन्ध में सबसे अधिक व्यवस्थित केस फिगर्स के साथ उनके सामने रक्खा । बल्कि वेज बोर्ड ने डेढ दिन तक मुझे सुना और लगभग एक घण्टे के अन्दर मिल मालिकों का केस खत्म हो गया । मैंने १८० रु० की मांग की है टैक्सटाइल के अन्दर । जो डा० आयकराण्ड का फार्मूला है कास्ट आफ लिविंग इन्डेक्स के बारे में, उसके सम्बन्ध में मैंने एक पुस्तक छाप कर मेहता साहब को दी है कि उसे शुरू से कर आखीर तक एक एक शब्द पढ कर देखिये जो कि मैंने वेज बोर्ड के सामने रक्खा था । मैं महता साहिब से पूछना चाहता हूं कि क्या वेज बोर्ड की रिपोर्ट में आपने डिअरनेस अलाउंस को कास्ट आफ लिविंग इन्डैक्स के साथ लिंक किया है । क्या डा० आयकरण्ड के फार्मूले के अनुसार मिनिमम वेज इतनी होनी चाहिये हि भी उसमें दिया है । मैंने तो इतनी बोगस रिपोर्ट कोई नहीं देखी जितनी कि टैक्सटाइल वेज बोडकी रिपोर्ट है । मैंने मेहता साहब से बातचीत की कि मैं टैक्सटाइल वेज बोर्ड के बारे में यह जानना चाहता हूं कि आपने जो ६ रु० और ८ रु० दिये हैं वह किस बाजीगर के डब्बे से निकाले ? आखिर आपकी यह रिपोर्ट किन सिद्धान्तों पर आधारित है ।

सारी रिपोर्ट को पढ़ जाइये पर आपको कुछ पता नहीं लगता जैसे कोई सारी रामायण पढ़ जाने के बाद पूछे कि सीता रामकी कौन थी या राम सीता के कौन थे । मैं तो टैक्सटाइल वेज बोर्ड की बात कहता हूं । सीमेंट वेज बोर्ड की बात कहता हूं और शुगर वेज बोर्ड की बात कहता हूं । फिर वे कमीशन के सम्बन्ध में ही यह सिद्धान्त क्यों ? आज यह हालत नहीं है देश में कि आप बाल की खाल निकालने जाएं । हमने देश में समाज की स्थापना का प्रस्ताव कर डाला है । लेकिन हमारे पंडित जी के पास कोई अला-उद्दीन का चिराग तो नहीं है कि जिसके घिसते ही देश में समानता हो जाएगी । उस तरफ हमने बढ़ना शुरू कर दिया है । हम उस तरफ बढ़ रहे हैं । जिसके लिये हमें कठिन परिश्रम करना है ।

मैं निवेदन करूंगा कि हमारे भरूचा साहब कानूनी पंडित हो सकते हैं लेकिन वह लेबर के पंडित नहीं हैं यह मैं दावा कर सकता हूं । मैं उनसे पूछना चाहता हूं कि लेबर पालिसी चीज क्या है । मैं यह निवेदन करना चाहता हूं कि इण्डियन लेबर पालिसी जितनी शुद्ध और पवित्र है और क्लीयर है वैसी आपको दुनिया के किसी देश में नहीं मिलेगी । यह मानी हुई बात है कि इस पालिसी को इमप्लीमेंट करने के लिये श्री नन्दा जी ने इतने प्रयत्न किये हैं कि डांगे जी ने बार बार मीटिंगों में कहा है कि नन्दा जी ने लेबर पालिसी को बहुत सुन्दर ढंग से चलाया है । श्री एम० एम० जोशी ने और श्री डांगे जी ने नैनीताल कानफरेंस में यह बात भी कही थी कि नन्दा जी को तो मजदूरों का जब झगड़ा हो तो उसमें पंच बनाया जाए । लेकिन बात यह है कि जो अंगूर हाथ नहीं लगे वे खट्टे हैं । आज आपको इन्डियन लेबर पालिसी इतनी गलत दिखायी देने लगी है । इसका कारण यह है कि आपने अपना चेहरा फूटे शीशे में देखा है और इसलिये आपको अपने तरह तरह के रूप दिखायी देते हैं । और आप अब यह सोचने के लिये मजबूर हो रहेहैं कि हड़ताल के सम्बन्ध में आप वर्कर्स को क्या जवाब दें । आपने हड़ताल करा दी और हड़ताल कराना बहुत आसान है लेकिन हड़ताल को चलाना बहुत कठिन है । और उसके बाद फिर से श्रमिकों के बीच में खड़ा होना और भी कठिन है ।

17.07 hrs.

DISCUSSION RE: RISE IN PRICE OF CLOTH

Mr. Chairman: The House will now continue the discussion on the rise in the price of cloth raised by Shri Rameshwar Tantia on the 5th August, 1960. Time allotted is a hours, time taken 1-05 hours, balance 0-55 minutes.

श्री ब्रजराज सिंह (फिरोजाबाद) : सभापति महोदय, मैंने भी कपड़े की कीमतों के सम्बन्ध में एक प्रस्ताव दिया था । लेकिन क्योंकि यह प्रस्ताव मंजूर हो गया इस लिये उस पर चर्चा न हो सकी कपड़े की कीमतें कैसे बढीं और सरकार का ऐसी सूरत में क्या कर्तव्य है इस पर मैं कुछ निवेदन करना चाहता हूं ।

कहा जाता है कि कपड़े की कीमतें सिर्फ पांच फीसदी बढ़ी हैं । लेकिन जब यह कपड़ा उपभोक्ताओं के पास पहुंचता है तो किसी किसी जगह तो उसकी कीमत में तीस और चालीस प्रतिशत की वृद्धि हो गयी है । पिछले दो तीन महीने से यह चीज चल रही है । लेकिन सरकार इसके लिये केवल प्रार्थना, अपील और निवेदन भर करती है । वह कोई ऐसी चीज नहीं कर रही जिनकी कि हम यहां चर्चा कर रहे हैं । जब मजदूरों का सवाल आता है या सरकारी कर्मचारियों का सवाल आता है तब तो सरकार आर्डिनेन्स लाग करके हड़ताल को दबाने की कोशिश करती है, लेकिन कुछ मिल मालिक सारे देश की जनता को कपड़े के मूल्य बढ़ा कर और इसी तरह से दूसरी आवश्यक चीजों के मूल्य को बढ़ा कर शोषण करते हैं तो सरकार सिर्फ हाथ जोड़ कर उनके सामने निवेदन करती है,

[श्री ब्रजराज सिंह]

प्रार्थना करती है और अपीलें करती है, और उससे कुछ नहीं बन पड़ता।

जब इस सदन में इस प्रश्न पर चर्चा हुई तो शायद मिल मालिक संघ ने कहा है कि वह १० फीसदी कपड़े की कीमत कम करने को तैयार है। लेकिन दस फीसदी का क्या सवाल है। मैं तो निवेदन करना चाहता हूं कि कपड़े की कीमतें जब से बढ़नी शुरू हुई हैं उससे पहले जो कीमतें थीं उसी भाव पर जनता को कपड़ा मिलना चाहिये इस की व्यवस्था की जाए।

यह प्रश्न बहुत पेचीदा है। एक साल के अन्दर हम तृतीय पंचवर्षीय योजना को शुरू करने जा रहे हैं पर आप खाद्यान्न की कीमत को ठीक नहीं रख सकते, कपड़ा जो जीवन के लिये दूसरी जरूरी चीज है, उसकी कीमत को आप ठीक नहीं रख सकते। किस तरह से इस हालत में हम इन योजनाओं को सफल बना सकते हैं। मैं निवेदन करना चाहता हूं कि अगर हमको अपनी तृतीय पंचवर्षीय योजना को सफल बनाना है तो इसके लिये सिवा कोई चारा नहीं है कि जो वस्तुएं जीवन के लिये आवश्यक हैं उनकी कीमत को ठीक स्तर पर कायम रखा जाए। कपड़े की जो कीमत बढ़ गयी है उसको अगर हम ठीक स्तर पर नहीं ला पायेंगे तो हमारी पंचवर्षीय योजना सफल नहीं हो सकती। इसलिये मैं निवेदन करता हूं कि यदि सरकार आर्डिनेन्स पास कर के कपड़े की कीमतों को ठीक स्तर पर नहीं ला सकती तो कम से कम उसे यह करना चाहिये कि जिन मिल मालिकों ने पिछले दिनों जब से कपड़े की कीमतें बढ़नी शुरू हुई है नाजायज फायदा उठाया है उन की जांच पड़ताल के लिये एक कमेटी बिठाई जाये और यह देखा जाय कि इस बीच में उन्हों ने कितना नाजायज मुनाफा कमाया है। मैं तो कहना चाहता हूं कि अब वह समय आ गया है कि जब सरकार इस पर विचार करने के लिये तैयार हो कि जिन उद्योगों ने बहुत मुनाफा कमा लिया है और जितनी पूंजी लगी थी उस से कहीं ज्यादा मुनाफा किया जा चुका है उन उद्योगों का राष्ट्रीयकरण क्यों न कर दिया जाय। मैं कहना चाहता हूं कि जो उद्योग आये दिन जनता का शोषण किया करते हैं उन को निश्चित रूप से सरकार को अपने कब्जे में ले लेना चाहिये, और अगर सरकार उन को स्वयं न चलाना चाहे तो कोआपरेटिव संस्थाओं से उन को चलवाया जाय। आजकल सरकार को कोआपरेटिव संस्थाओं से विशेष प्रेम भी है। आप कह सकते हैं कि राष्ट्रीयकरण करने में कपड़ा मिलों को हमें मुआवजा देना पड़ेगा और उस के लिये सरकार के पास इतना पैसा नहीं है। मैं निवेदन करना चाहता हूं कि अब ऐसा समय आ गया है कि सरकार विचार करे कि क्या उन उद्योगों को, जिन्हों ने अपनी पूंजी से बहुत ज्यादा मुनाफा कमा लिया है, बिना मुआवजा दिये राष्ट्रीयकरण नहीं किया जा सकता। मैं मानता हूं कि इस के लिये हमें संविधान में संशोधन करना पड़ेगा। लेकिन जनता के हित के लिये तो हम संविधान में कई परिवर्तन कर चुके हैं। इसलिये इस विषय में भी संशोधन किया जा सकता है। यह कहा जा सकता है कि ऐसा करने से पूंजी का निर्माण नहीं होगा और जनता को विश्वास नहीं रहेगा और इस में सरकार को लोगों का सहयोग नहीं मिलेगा। मैं कहता हूं कि इस तरह की बातों का आज कोई महत्व नहीं है। आप को जनता का सहयोग इस काम में अधिकाधिक मिलेगा। अगर सरकार यह कदम उठाये तो उस को अवश्य जनता का सहयोग मिलेगा। इसलिये मैं कहता हूं कि सरकार कड़ाई बरते और जो स्तर सरकार मुनासिब समझे उस पर कपड़े की कीमत को स्थिर करे। ताज्जुब तो यह है कि जो कपड़ा मोटे किस्म का है और जिस को किसान और गरीब आदमी पहनते हैं उस की कीमत में

३०–५० प्रतिशत की वृद्धि हुई है और फाइन और सुपर फाइन में ५ पर सट से १० या १२ पर सट ही कीमत बढ़ी है । मोटे कपड़े की कीमत में ३०–४० प्रतिशत की वृद्धि हुई है और इस तरह से फिर उन्हीं लोगों का शोषण किया जा रहा है जिन का हमेशा से शोषण होता आ रहा है । मैं कहूंगा कि उद्योग और व्यापार मंत्रालय इस विषय पर गम्भीरता से विचार करे और फिर से उस जाल में न फंस जाय जिस जाल में कपड़े का उद्योग उस को फंसाना चाहता है । पहले उन्हों ने कहा कि ५ फीसदी कमी कर दी जायगी लेकिन जब इस प्रश्न पर इस सदन में चर्चा हुई तो उन्हों ने कहा कि दस फीसदी कमी कर दी जायगी । मैं कहता हूं कि कपड़े की कीमत उसी स्तर पर फिर से पहुंचनी चाहिये जिस स्तर से कि वह बढ़नी शुरू हुई है और इस बीच में जितना नाजायज मुनाफा किया गया है उस को पंचवर्षीय योजना के लिये सरकार को उद्योगपतियों से ले लेना चाहिये । सरकार को यह नहीं करना चाहिये कि जिन गरीब लोगों पर पहले से ही काफी टैक्स लगा हुआ है उन पर और टैक्स लगाये । सरकार को चाहिये कि कपड़े के स्तर को ठीक करे और जिन मिल-मालिकों ने नाजायज मुनाफा कमाया है उन से वह रुपया ले लिया जाय । इसलिये इस में ढिलमिल यकीनी से काम नहीं चलेगा । आप कपड़ा मिल मालिकों और पूंजीपतियों से हाथ जोड़ कर अपील और निवेदन करते रह कि वे कपड़े की कीमत में जो इधर काफी बढ़ोतरी हुई है उस को कम करें तो उस का कोई खास फल निकलने वाला नहीं है । निवेदन के साथ साथ आप को वह सख्ती भी बर्तनी होगी जिस को कि उन के प्रति अपनाने की जरूरत है जोकि समाज का और आम जनता का शोषण करते हैं । मैं आशा करता हूं कि सरकार की तरफ से कपड़े की कीमतों में बढ़ोतरी होने वाली समस्या की कोई इस तरीके की व्याख्या नहीं की जायगी और इस को यह कह कर टालने की कोशिश नहीं की जायगी कि कुछ किस्म के कपड़ों की कीमत नहीं बढ़ी है या कपास की कमी उस की वजह है । अब अगर आंकड़ों में जाये तो पता चलेगा कि जितनी कपास में कमी आई है उस से ज्यादा कपड़े की कमी आई है । जब मिल के कपड़े की कीमत इतनी बढ़ी है तो उसी हिसाब से जो हैंडलूम का कपड़ा है उस की कीमत क्या नहीं बढ़ी है ? इन चीजों से साफ पता चलता है कि कपड़ा मिल मालिक नाजायज मुनाफा कमा रहे हैं और उस में आम जनता का कोई हिस्सा नहीं है । जनता की गाढ़ी कमाई का जो हिस्सा है वह पैसा अगर आप जनता को वापिस नहीं कर सकते तो कम से कम उस का उपयोग जनता के हित में इस पंचवर्षीय योजना को चलाने में जरूर कर लीजिये ।

Shrimati Parvathi Krishnan (Coimbatore): I have been listening very carefully to this debate and was also carefullly attentive when the hon. Minister was replying to questions with regard to the rise in cloth prices, and I fear that Government, unfortunately, are helping the millowners to mislead the mind of the public in this matter.

17.15 hrs.

[PANDIT THAKUR DAS BHARGAVA *in the Chair*].

There has been a very serious rise in prices. As soon as one opened the morning papers today, just on the eve of the conclusion of this discussion on cloth prices, the first thing one saw was a 10 per cent slash in the prices of cloth. What is this great slash that is now tried to be put over by the millowners? Just a mere 10 per cent which has absolutely no relation to the phenomenal rise that has already taken place.

So what I would like to point out in this discussion is that the rise that has taken place in the prices of cloth

[Shrimati Parvathi Krishnan]

is absolutely out of all proportion to the rise that took place in the price of yarn and of cotton. When Government in their statement stated that the shortage of cotton was one of the contributory factors to the rise in prices, I would like to draw the attention of the House and of the Minister to one or two facts that are absolutely incontrovertible. In Coimbatore at the beginning of this year, when there was a serious shortage of yarn, when yarn prices shot up throughout the south, representations were made to the Government and to the South India Millowners' Association pointing out that this rise in the prices of yarn was hitting the handloom weaver and also the hosiery industry. At that time, while on the one hand, the industry maintained that the rise was due—mark you—not to the shortage of cotton in spite of the fact that already it was known what the prospective crop of cotton was going to be, they tried to make out that it was due to the "trouble" given by labour, "trouble", as they termed it, in the Harvey belt in the extreme south; it was maintained that for this reason, the price of yarn shot up and sooner or later, it would come down again when production regained its normal figure. This was the excuse that was put forward at that time. Now that is forgotten, and in order to mislead the public once again, we are told that it is shortage of crop that is responsible for the rise in prices. In fact, never are the millowners in the wrong! Never are the cotton brokers or speculators in the wrong! It is always either the workers or the consume or poor nature that is put in the wrong, and for this the common man is asked to pay.

Again, at the time when this yarn shortage was there, when the hosiery industry said that because of the very limited capital that they have, they could only buy stocks from month to month of yarn, what did the South India Millowners' Association say? They said: 'If at this increased price you are willing to take yarn, if you are willing to place firm orders for a period of six months, we will certainly be able to provide you with the yarn that is required'. Where is the shortage of cotton in that case? This is a partinent question that will have to be put to the industry. I think Government have been really very dilatory in taking any action against the big cotton brokers, cotton merchants and the millowners and that is why we find that today in the south a crisis has hit not only the consumer on the one hand, but on the other the vast masses of handloom weavers who are facing a crisis because of the increased price of yarn.

So it is necessary that the Government and the millowners should answer us. Why is it that while the handloom prices, as my hon. friend, Shri Nagi Reddy, pointed out, have increased only to the extent of 7 per cent in the twelve months from May 1959 to May 1960—according to Government figures—the prices of mill goods have gone up so phenomenally, wherein there is a paltry decrease of 10 per cent? *Capital* itself of July 28 pointed out this factor, that it is not handloom that has gone up in price, but it is the mill goods that have gone up in price; and this is because the millowners are in a position to dictate prices to the market, to the Government and to the consumer.

Shri Rameshwar Tantia was, of course, very eloquent blaming the working class, blaming the trade unions, blaming the Textile Wage Board and saying that it is precisely for this reason that prices have gone up. But the fact remains that till today in very many areas privately-managed mills have certainly not implemented the decisions of the Textile Wage Board. And this particular phenomenon of rise in prices of yarn and finished goods took place long before the implementation of the recommendations of the Textile Wage Board took place. And, to bring forward this argument—for the mill-

owners to bring forward this—is really fantastic because we know further what can be now regarded as a fact, that next year a large number of mills in this country declared very large profits. Therefore, certainly, the wage icrease suggested by the Wage Board was justifiable and, it is, certainly, not the workers or the trade unions that are responsible for the large number of mismanaged mills in this country. Whether it is a case of mismanagement or internal management quarrel it is the worker and the consumer that will suffer.

The hon. Minister himself knows very well the case I brought to his notice more than two years ago, the Kaliswar Mills in Coimbatore where the mills were closed down for no other reason except that they were in a management quarrel at that time. I requested the Government to step in and take over the mills and run the mills which the Textile Commissioner himself had declared at that time would be an economic proposition. We were told then that the provisions of the Industrial (Development and Regulation) Act did not give Government sufficient power to take over the mills in a very short time. We were promised in Parliament in reply to discussions and in reply to questions that this Act would be amended as early as possible in order to give powers to Government to intervene as urgently as possible in such cases where mismanagement and inner management quarrels existed. This action has also not been forthcoming from Government. I want to know why this soft-pedalling continues

17.23 hrs.

[SHRIMATI RENU CHAKRAVARTTY *in the Chair*].

with regard to this section of industries in our country—the textile industry—because this industry holds the pride of place. It is certainly one of the oldest industries in our country. At that time when India was not yet free, certainly, many of those industrial magnates made their thousands, their lakhs and their millions because there was the sentiment of patriotism and because they traded on national sentiment. But today it is exactly that section which continues to be most unpatriotic and anti-patriotic, because, in getting these profits and in passing the burden of the profits they are making on to the consumer and in seeing that they get sweated labour from the working classes, the only thing that can be said is that they are anti-patriotic. They are not interested in increasing production; they are not interested in seeing to the development and the improvement of the handloom industry and our mill industry. On the other hand, they are only interested in the narrow sphere of their own profits. It is for this reason that we demand that very early and very stringent action should be taken by Government. We should not, time and again, be told that the industry has been facing difficulties, that there has been this shortage and that shortage and all that. I am sure that if Government take matters into their hands and see to it that the industry is prevented from continuing in the manner in which is has done in the past, then, certainly, the cloth prices should also be controlled. The prices of cloth and yarn should not be left to the tender mercies of big mill magnates of this country. It is Government that should have full control over it to see that the interests of the consumers and the interests of the working classes and the interests of the handloom industry in our country are safeguarded.

Mr. Chairman: Shrimati Ranuka Ray. But I would request the hon. Member to finish her speech in 5 minutes or 6 minutes because I think the hon. Minister wants 25 minutes.

This is only a discussion and I do not think there is the right of reply. It is not a motion.

Shrimati Renuka Ray (Malda): Madam Chairman, I will try to be as brief as possible. It is very interesting to note that since the discussion

[Shrimati Renuka Ray]

here on last Friday on this subject, the mills have announced that they have reduced the cloth price by ten per cent.

We are very anxious to hold the price line in regard to certain essential commodities of which food and textiles are the most important. It is very difficult in the sphere of food where a large number of units operate but in the sphere of textiles with a limited number of units, it is something which we must see and control in the proper manner. It is rather astounding that the chairman of the Cotton Mills Federation makes this announcement today and acknowledges that the coarse and medium varieties of clothes' prices had gone up by 46 per cent. He also makes another remark which brings to light some of the things. For instance he says 24 per cent rise in the cost of manufacture has taken place of which 2·5 per cent is due to rise in the cotton prices and 2 per cent due to the wages. Now what are the other components of this 20 per cent? I would like the hon. Minister to take this into account as I think the hon. Members will not be satisfied with this announcement of a 10 per cent reduction of price after the matter comes up for discussion in this House.

It is a very sad thing that the textile industry which has received perhaps the greatest help from the Government as compared to any other industry is not playing the game. The encouragement of the textile Trade as the previous speaker pointed out was held as an integral part of the national movement. When freedom came, the result was that we put a blanket ban on foreign imports as a result of which the textile industry had greater protection, perhaps, than any other industry. When it is essential to hold the price line in regard to textiles essential to the common man, and when the industry is not playing the game, it is time that the Government took the power, which has been given by this House, and used it. The law that is there on essential commodities should be brought into operation in this respect and this House will only be too glad to welcome any such measures that the Government may take. This is the feeling of almost everyone in this House who have no particular axe to grind.

Shri H. N. Mukerjee (Calcutta—Central): Madam Chairman, I shall be very brief. My only intention in participating in the debate is to have a timely assurance, if I may, from the Minister that something really will be done here and now to see that the prices do not continue to rise as they are rising and they are checked and that the line is held. I say this because even on capitalist computation, the cotton industry has recently revived from its depression: since 1959 it is no longer in depression. Besides, it has been pointed out that in the old flourishing days they have made such fantastic profits that if they have a shred of patriotism left in the industry they can see that the prices do not rise.

Now, I have only one appeal to make to the Minister, and that is this. In States like West Bengal the Pujas are coming. In less than a month and a half's time it would be time for everybody, rich and poor, to buy clothes for their children. I have seen the industry is sending out circulars to the Press in rather pseudo-patriotic fashion requesting postponement of purchases by the people. My submission to the House is, and my request to the Minister is, to remember that certain purchases cannot be postponed. The Pujas are there, with Dushera and Diwali to follow. All over North India people have to make purchases, specially the poorer section of the people too have to make purchases. That is why I make a very special appeal to the Minister to make sure that he takes some very definite steps, he tells the country that he is taking some very tangible steps in order to hold the price-line to make

it possible for our people to buy textiles which are absolutely essential for the Puja purposes.

Shri Damani (Jalore): Madam Chairman, I have heard the views expressed by many hon. Members both on last Friday and also today. They have tried to throw all the responsibility on the millowners. I am not here to defend or criticise them. I want to confine myself to the reasons, whatever the reasons may be, that have led to the rise in the price of cloth, and how it can be checked.

The main reason for the rise in the price of cloth is failure of crop in this season. Against an expectation of 50 lakh bales we have been able to get only 38 lakh bales. Due to that the rise in the price of cotton is about 50 per cent. Last year the price was about Rs. 600 to Rs. 650 per candy or about 12 annas to 13 annas per pound. This season the price of cotton has gone up to Rs. 1-2-0 to Rs. 1-3-0 per pound. The second reason is, production of coarse count and medium count on account of shortage of cotton has been considerably reduced. In the first half of 1959 the production of coarse and medium count cloth was of the order of 1302 million yards. As against that during this season in six months the production is only 1188 million yards. That means the production of coarse and medium count cloth is about 140 million yards less. The third reason for rise in the cost of production is increased wages and increased prices of other stores which the mills are consuming.

The Government have now decided to import six lakh bales of cotton from the United States of America and other countries. I think that after getting this cotton the production will improve and automatically the prices of cloth will start declining.

Anyhow, if this import had been arranged earlier the position would have improved earlier. But the Government have their own difficulties in regard to foreign exchange. Therefore, it requires time to adjust everything and arrange for the imports. I am sure after getting this cotton from abroad the difficulty will be removed and production will increase. Naturally the prices of cloth will then go down.

The production of cloth in our country is not able to meet the expanding demand of the country. In 1955 the production of organised textile industry was 4950 million yards and in 1960 it has remained the same. That means the production has not increased in about four or five years whereas our population has increased, our consumption has increased. Therefore, it is most essential that the Government should see that the production in the country is increased so that we are able to meet the requirements of the people. There are two ways of increasing production. The first way is to allot more looms and spindles to increase production. The second way is to utilise the idle capacity lying at present in the country. In the first and second shifts, an average of 11.40 million spindles are working, but in the third shift, only 5.5 million spindles are working. As regards looms, in the first and second shifts, 172,000 looms are working on an average whereas in the third shift only 40,000 looms are working. So, if proper facilities are given for running the third shift to full capacity, extra production can be achieved to meet the expanded demand.

In doing so there are so many difficulties in starting the third shift. Therefore, it will be advisable for the Government, for labour and for the millowners to sit together and solve the difficulties so that the capacity of the third shift can be utilised fully and properly in order that cloth can be produced in greater quantities. I think that at present this will be the best possible thing to achieve the best production.

[Shri Damani]

Here, I would also invite the attention of the House to the fact that the stock of cloth in January, 1959 was 535,000 bales; in June, 1959, it was 399,000 bales and in June, 1960, it has been 284,000 bales. So, the stock of cloth with the mills has also gone down by 50 per cent.

These are the major reasons for the present difficulties. If the problem about the third shift is solved and adjustments made, production of cloth will go up and I think that would help the country to reduce the prices.

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Lal Bahadur Shastri): Mr. Chairman, I fully share the grave concern expressed by hon. Members on the increase in the price of cloth. Hon. Members have tried to allocate the blame to different parties concerned—partly to the industry and partly to Government also. I shall try to deal with the matter objectively and would request the House to consider how far Government is responsible for the existing situation and what part the industry or trade has played in this regard.

I must first say that a special situation did arise in the year 1959-60. As I said the other day in the House during the Question Hour, it would not be correct to deny the fact that there has been lesser production of cotton during 1959-60. I gave the figures to the effect that whereas it used to be, a year or two before, about 48 lakh bales, it came down in 1959-60 to roundabout 37 lakh or 38 lakh bales. This resulted in the rise of cotton prices; it has been a very high increase. Never before during the last six or seven years had cotton prices even reached the ceiling. There is a floor and ceiling of cotton prices. The price had ranged between the floor and the ceiling. But this year the prices of cotton had pierced the ceiling. The prices have gone up by Rs. 100 to Rs. 200 per candy. When I say this, I merely want to place the facts as they are before the House.

Shri Nagi Reddy is not here. He said that the supply of cotton has been more or less as it was during the last year, 1958-59. He is partly correct, but he forgets the fact that there has been a shortage of supply of the special variety of cotton—the short staple cotton—which is used for the manufacture of coarse and medium variety of cloth. Shri Nagi Reddy was somewhat misinformed when he said that there has been no reduction in the manufacture of coarse and medium cloth. Rather he said that there was some reduction in the coarse variety. But I have to tell the House that between January and June, 1959 and January and June, 1960, there has been a reduction of a little over 100 million yards in the production of both coarse and medium variety of cloth.

It was but natural that this situation would have created a scare and a psychology of scarcity. As the market functions, if those who are concerned either with the industry or with the trade wanted, they could exploit the situation. I must accept that the industry has taken advantage of the situation. Sometime back—about six months back—I had said, when the price had gone up then, that the wholesale trade was responsible for indulging in speculation. I must frankly tell the House that this time, it is the other way round. I am not prepared to accuse the wholesale trader, but it is the mills who are responsible for this unwarranted increase in prices.

I have already told the House about the difficulties of the mills, about the shortage of cotton—specially of short staple cotton—and about the rise in prices of cotton. Yet, I cannot justify the increase of 40 per cent in the price of cloth; it is very much on the high side. I am prepared to give a margin of 18 to 20 per cent. I shall

even go further up to 25 per cent, because the market does not cut so fine. On account of the increase in the price of cotton and the increase in the wage bill, the price of cloth may go up to 18 or 20 per cent. Of course, I do not want to do that, but I would be a bit liberal and say, even 25 per cent. But where is the justification in making this high increase of 40 per cent? No calculation can justify that amount of increase. Therefore, when I met the representatives of the Cotton Mills Federation on the 29th of last month, I expressed my views unequivocally on this matter. I told them—in fact, I gave the detailed figures though I do not want to take the time of the House in going into the detailed figures—the exact figures as to what has been the increase on account of cotton prices, increase on account of wage bill or increase on account of increase in railway freight, coal prices etc. and I told them very frankly that they must reconsider the whole matter and immediately think of bringing about a reduction in the price of cloth, and besides that they should take the responsibility of proper distribution through wholesalers and through the retail shops and their own agents. Most of the mills have got their own agents, wholesalers and sub-wholesalers and they can exercise great influence over them, I have no doubt.

17.46 hrs.

[MR. SPEAKER *in the Chair*]

So, I said they have to take the responsibility of adequate supply of cloth to the market, proper distribution of cloth, indication of prices at every shop, publicising the prices and also bringing about a change in the pattern of production. That is to say, they should produce more of coarse and medium varieties rather than higher medium or fine and super-fine. I also said that as Government will be able to supply cotton in greater quantity they should consider running a third shift also so that there should be greater production.

Some mechanical device or some action on our part will bring down the prices to a certain extent, no doubt, but the real solution, of course, is increased production and adequate production both for internal consumption as well as for exports.

I am rather worried—of course, I do not want to bring in the question of export at the moment but export is very vital and last year we had done very well—so far as the export of cloth is concerned. My fear is that if the prices go up and if there is not enough production our people will suffer as well as our exports will go down. Therefore, every effort has to be made to increase the present production and with a view to help the needs of the consumers of our country it is essential that the mills should produce more of coarse and lower medium varieties of cloth.

Hon. Members have seen in the papers the decision of the Federation about the prices. It is not perhaps a formal decision but they have made an announcement, and I take it to be a formal decision of the Federation. When they were here they told me that they will be able to have an informal consultation in the first week of this month and they will hold their formal meeting of the Federation on the 11th. That formal meeting is yet to take place on the 11th. But the result of that informal consultation has been announced in the press.

Well, in so far as other matters are concerned, as I said, about the pattern of production, or the retail shops, or the exhibiting the list of prices, or exercising adequate control over the wholesalers and retailers for selling cloth at the fixed prices, I welcome their decision. In fact, it was on these lines I had myself made certain suggestions. But, as regards reduction in price, I must say that I am not satisfied with ten per cent reduction. In any case, I welcome the fact that they have thought of bringing about some reduction.

[Shri Lal Bahadur Shastri]

In a way, I must not minimise it also, ten per cent. is from their point of view perhaps a substantial reduction. But I would very much like that when the formal meeting of the Federation takes place on the 11th the Federation will reconsider the whole matter and try to bring down the prices further. I say so specially because there are some mills whose prices have not gone up as compared to the prices of other mills. I know of two mills. They may be very good and efficient mills, but the increase they have made is wholly reasonable. If I place those figures before the House every hon. Member will agree with me that those increases are justified. I do not quite see the justification of this general decision taken by the Indian Mills Federation, namely, that there should be *pro rata* reduction. What about those mills which have not increased their prices beyond 16 or 18 per cent.? How will the Mills Federation justify ten per cent reduction in their case? I do not know.

Shri Braj Raj Singh: They will, I think, exempt them.

Shri Lal Bahadur Shastri: I do not know that. But what I want to say is that the prices of those mills which have increased their prices much higher than these two or three mills whom I am not naming just at present should come down much below 30 per cent. If they are 40 per cent., the reduction will bring them down to 30 per cent. I think in their case it should be lower than 30 per cent. So in this context I would like to suggest to the Federation to reconsider the matter and come to an early decision.

I entirely agree with Shri Mukerjee. I had that fear in my mind about Deepawali and Dussehra. I might tell him that even in the meeting which was held on the 29th, I had told them that Diwali and Dussehra were fast approaching and that these were festivals during which naturally cloth was consumed in large quantities. I entirely agree with him that any kind of patriotic appeal to the consumer not to purchase cloth during this festival period is something which I cannot appreciate. After all the poor man waits for these months and makes his purchases during these months. So to prevent him from making the necessary purchases during Dussehra and Deepwali could hardly be justified.

I do not think there should be any special difficulty because I am told that the retail shops are almost full of cloth. Maybe, supplies of certain varieties are less. Yet, the supplies which have been made to the wholesalers as well as to the retailers are fairly adequate and at the present moment the shops are not in short supply. In the circumstances it should be possible for the Mills to arrange for proper and adequate sale of cloth specially during the Deepawali and Dussehra festivals.

Even on the 29th I had said that my fear was that during Dussehra and Deepawali they would raise the prices still further by saying that the demand was very high and that they had not enough. Again the psychology of scarcity might be taken advantage of and the prices may be raised. So, I said that it would be a crime if prices were raised during the Deepawali and Dussehra festivals. The question of a rise is of course not there. But the supply should be enough and we should see that the supplies are made at the reduced rates. And what is essential is that the Indian Mills Federation should take immediate steps to see that the cloth is sold at the reduced prices. What I mean is, they may enter into a contract tomorrow or the day after with wholesalers and others. I would like that in all the contracts entered into, say, from tomorrow or two or three days later with the wholesalers it should be seen that the cloth supplied to them is at the re-

duced prices, so that the consumer also may get them at the reduced prices.

Shri Harish Chandra Mathur was good enough to launch a strong criticism. I am not as good a prophet as he is. He might foresee things in a better way. But I might tell him this. He said that cotton imports and all these steps should have been taken much earlier. I might tell him that we had authorised the import of cotton to the tune of 11·8 lakh bales, which was a much higher figure than our normal annual import figure. Generally the annual import is to the tune of 6 lakh bales, whereas we had, because of the difficult conditions prevailing in the cotton field and the cotton market, authorised an import of 11.8 lakh bales, almost double the normal annual import.

Besides that we had introduced control measures for equitable distribution of cotton to mills. We had even taken powers to requisition cotton, if necessary. The control, to the extent we had got the power, was put into effect and it did help the mills to a large extent in so far as the supply of cotton was concerned.

It is true that recently we have decided o import an additional 6 lakh bales. Well, I must admit that it was not an easy matter for us to decide to import 6 lakh of bales a few months earlier. There are two reasons for it. In the first place, it was never expected that the cotton production will go down to that degree, that is to 38 lakh bales. Because, whatever information we got from the Ministries concerned generally stated that it would be slightly less than the average production; but it was never conceived that it would go down to the figure of 38 lakh bales. So we were hoping that there would be, if not a fairly good crop, at least an average crop which would prevent us from importing cotton from abroad.

And what does even an import of 2 lakh bales of cotton mean? It means Rs. 10 crores. It means that we should have imported Rs. 50 crores worth of cotton from abroad

I entirely agree that we were til the last moment trying to avoid this in view of the difficult foreign exchange situation and we tried to manage as much as possible within the indigenous resources as well as through imports, as I said, of about 12 lakh bales of cotton.

18 hrs.

So it is not quite justified to say that we had not foreseen these things and that we were not taking the necessary steps. But as I said, in respect of the recent step, namely the import of 6 lakh bales, it was indeed difficult to get the foreign exchange from the Finance Ministry. Anyway, P.L. 480 came to our rescue, and we got four lakh bales from the U.S.A and two lakh bales from other countries. So, we were faced with, as I said, enormous difficulties in so far as import of cotton and the required foreign exchange were concerned. Yet, we have tried to do our best, and at the present moment I do not think there will be shortage of cotton, at least the psychology of shortage should not be there.

Shri Rameshwar Tantia (Sikar): He may say something about the closed mills.

Shri Lal Bahadur Shastri: I have merely to add one or two things more.

Shri Braj Raj Singh said that we had passed ordinances etc. I am not here to deal with that. Anyhow, issuing of ordinances will not produce additional cotton. I agree with him that Government should, when necessary, take effective action in this regard, but one thing has to be made clear There is no control, no rationing. If you want equitable, proper distribu-

[Shri Lal Bahadur Shastri]

tion and at fixed prices, you will have to introduce control and rationing. The evils, defects and shortcomings of rationing and control are obvious, but Government may have to resort to that in case the industry or the trade does not play the game. But, at the present moment there is no control and no rationing. The only other course for us is to have mutual discussions and to an extent exercise some pressure, and I might tell the hon. Member that Government's advice cannot be easily ignored by these people.

Shri Braj Raj Singh: Let only ten persons from among the mill magnates be detained under the Preventive Detention Act, and matters will be settled.

Shri Lal Bahadur Shastri: How to do that? We will have to look into cases, and then issue some notifications under the Essential Commodities Act. It will become some kind of an ordinance. Then you might take action, but at the present moment we cannot do it.

Shri Harish Chandra Mathur (Pali): In the Preventive Detention Act we have a provision.

Shrimati Renuka Ray: If persuasion fails, will you bring in controls or act under the Essential Commodities Act?

Shri Lal Bahadur Shastri: It will be not only for Government, but for Parliament also to consider and decide. It is not such an easy matter, it is a vital policy matter, and naturally Parliament will also be interested in expressing its opinion on that.

However, I do not think we should, at the present moment, think in terms of rationing and control. My idea is that, as there will be large supplies of cotton to the mills during the coming months and the new crops will also start coming in, both the indigenous production as well as increase in import of cotton should help the mills to produce enough quantity of cloth, and if they take other measures like the third shift etc., there should be no shortage of cloth. If there is no shortage of cloth, prices will come down. In fact, I welcome this reduction of ten per cent because this ten per cent. plus more on account of adequate cotton and other steps being taken will result, I have no doubt, in the trend being reversed.

श्री विभूति मिश्र (बगहा): मैं शास्त्री जी से जानना चाहता हूं कि आपने मिलवालों को कोई निर्देश दिया है कि वे सूती कपड़ों की कीमतों में इतने फीसदी की कमी करें ? जब तक आप इस तरह का कोई निश्चित निर्देश मिलमालिकों को नहीं देंगे तब तक वे सूती कपड़ों की कीमत नहीं घटायेंगे ।

Shri Lal Bahadur Shastri: If any direction is given, it must be enforced; there must be a sanction behind it, and unless that sanction is there, there is hardly much meaning in giving any directions. But I have indicated to the House that our advice even cannot be easily ignored. I would tell the House that in case we find that there is no proper response, Government will not demur from taking any other effective action that they think proper.

I am sorry some hon. Members have referred to the excise duty etc. I did not want to refer to that, but I am surprised that anyone should suggest a reduction in excise duty. It should be the other way round. In fact, if necessary, Government should think in terms of increasing the excise duty in order to mop up the profits of the mills.

Shri Harish Chandra Mathur: It is passed on always to the consumer.

Shri Nath Pai (Rajapur): Usually what happens is that the burden is passed on to the consumer.

Shri Lal Bahadur Shastri: I was just going to say that. Therefore, one has to take care of that also.

Of course, some Members will feel very happy if the excise duty is increased. But if it is passed on to the consumer, it will be meaningless and fruitless. But in a general way I said that a suggestion for reduction in excise duty could hardly be justified. I personally think that it is not at all a correct suggestion.

I shall not deal with some of the other points raised by Shri Damani or Shri Rameshwar Tantia, because they are not the immediate issues which we are considering just now; those points relate to additional capacity, providing more spindlage, more loomage etc., modernisation of the mills, the problem of closed mills and so on. At present, we are not considering those issues; the immediate issue which we are considering now is reduction in the high prices, and supply of adequate cotton and maintaining the price level. All the other factors are already being considered by Government. But I would like merely to point out that it is just a short-range policy. What we are doing at the present moment is short-range, in order to bring about a change in the existing situation immediately. We shall also have to consider the long-term policies. For, whenever there is short production of cotton, the price of cotton goes up, and the prices of cloth go up; that has to be prevented. And we are thinking as to what other measures should be taken in that regard; but I do not want to go into them now.

About closed mills also, we are taking steps. As Shri Nath Pai has rightly said, I have no doubt that most of the mills which are closed—excepting for a few—have been closed mostly due to mismanagement. Shrimati Parvathi Krishnan rightly pointed to the case of the Coimbatore mill, which is another example of bad management. Of course, she is critical of what we did, but I tried to do my best whenever she brought up that matter pertaining to that mill.

Shrimati Parvathi Krishnan: I said that Government were delaying the amendment of the Act.

Shri Lal Bahadur Shastri: Anyhow, she knows much better than I about the matters concerning that mill; the court was seized of that case and it was not so easy for us to proceed with it further.

Shrimati Parvathi Krishnan: It was not the mill that I was referring to. I was merely asking why there was delay in bringing forward the amendment to the Industries (Development and Regulation) Act, which was referred to at that time. It was not the handling of the mill that I was referring to.

Shri Lal Bahadur Shastri: Anyhow, that is also a larger question—the amendment of the Industries (Development and Regulation) Act. I was merely saying that most of these mills which were closed were closed due to mismanagement, and whenever Government have taken over some of these mills, they have improved matters within a very short period; their losses have come down, and in fact, some of the mills are making some profit; they have paid up the arrears to the workers and cleared up their liabilities. So there is no doubt that mismanagement is one of the principal causes of these mills being closed down, and to ask Government to help them to put them on a sound footing is not always justified. Anyway, when we see that from the workers' point of view, from the production point of view, a good mill is suffering, we take it over and try to run it, and run it well.

Mr. Speaker: Has any attempt been made at any time by Government to organise co-operative societies to run

[Mr. Speaker]

the closed mills—co-operative societies consisting of the workers and the shareholders?

Shri Lal Bahadur Shastri: The formation of co-operatives is, in a way, the responsibility of the State Governments. We have encouraged it and an effort was made in one or two cases, but I do not think it literally materialised. But there is suggestion made by one of the Committees appointed for this that there should be a Corporation formed in order to take over and reopen these mills. That matter is under examination and we have not come to any decision.

I have nothing further to add except to say that I am sure the situation will improve, and we will remain as watchful as possible. As I said, I have also no doubt that in case there is no adequate response from the industry or the trade, the Government will take effective action to bring about an improvement in the situation.

Shri Braj Raj Singh: The Minister said towards the close of his speech that there was no justification for the mills to raise prices more than 18—20 per cent. He has admitted that they have raised the prices by 40 per cent. He also said that they have expressed a wish to reduce prices by 10 per cent. He perhaps means that they should reduce the prices by 20 per cent. May I know whether Government will take any steps to get the prices of cloth reduced by 20 per cent?

Shri Lal Bahadur Shastri: I have already said that the reduction will have to be all round. Of course, there are different ratios. As I said, there are some mills which have put up the rates higher than others; there are some which have not raised the price so much. Different ratios will have to be applied. We will certainly bear that in mind.

Shri Sinhasan Singh (Gorakhpur): Have Government got any figure as to what will be the total amount of profit that these millowners have taken? On the basis of the calculation of 40 per cent., leaving out 18 per cent., what is the total amount of the 22 per cent. profit that they have taken, and what steps are Government going to take to give it back to the nation?

Shri Lal Bahadur Shastri: Well, we will have to see the balance-sheets etc. I cannot say on the spur of the moment what the amount of profit is. Then there is the income-tax department who should watch this and realise the taxes from them.

Shri Palaniyandy (Perambalur): May I know whether the price of yarn will go down correspondingly?

Shri Lal Bahadur Shastri: I am sorry I did not mention about yarn. The same steps, more or less, will be taken by the spining mills. Shri Venkataswami Naidu, the representative of the spinning millls, was also present in Bombay when this discussion took place. He has said that. Of course, I do not exactly remember the percentage of reduction, but I think it should be as reasonable as possible—may be the same 10 per cent.

But the prices may come down further. I might also say that they are willing to supply yarn direct to the handloom co-operatives and other co-operatives, instead of middlemen being there to supply the yarn.

Shri Rameshwar Tantia: Sir, we are discussing the rise in cloth prices for the last two days....

Mr. Speaker: There is no right of reply. If he want any clarification he may ask. I have only fixed this time for discussion.

The House will now stand adjourned till 11 a.m. tomorrow.

The Lok Sabha then adjourned till Eleven of the Clock on Tuesday, August, 9, 1960/Sravana 18, 1882 (Saka).

[*Monday, August 8, 1960/Sravana 17, 1882(Saka)*]

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372	Foreign Exchange for delegations	1349
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374	Production and consumption of steel	1350
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407	Commissions of Inquiry	1368
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410	Qutab Minar, Delhi	1369
411	Museum at Ratnagiri (Orissa)	1369
412	Iron ore	1370
413	Death of Income-tax Officer in Calcutta	1370–71
414	Teaching of tribal children	1371
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428	Money lenders	1378
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431	Steel for Kerala	1380–81
432	Secretariat Training School, New Delhi	1381–82
433	Indian National Commission for Cooperation with UNESCO	1382
434	Excise cases pending in Courts	1382–83
435	Report of Law Commission	1383–84
436	Ground water survey in Madras	1384

PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE 1384

(1) A copy of the Appropriation Accounts of the Defence Services for the year 1958-59 and Commercial Appendix thereto.

COLUMNS

PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE—*contd.*

(2) A copy of the Report of the Commissioner for Linguistic Minorities for the period 1st August, 1958 to 31st July, 1959, under Article 350B of the Constitution.

(3) A copy of Notification No. G.S.R. 841 dated the 30th July, 1960 making certain amendment to Schedule III to the Indian Police Service (Pay) Rules, 1954, under sub-section (2) of Section 3 of the All India Services Act, 1951.

(4) A copy of Notification No. S.R.O. 5-E dated the 9th July, 1960 making certain further amendment to the Reserve and Auxiliary Air Forces Act Rules, 1953, under sub-section (4) of Section 34 of the Reserve and Auxiliary Air Forces Act, 1952.

REPORT OF PUBLIC ACCOUNTS COMMITTEE PRESENTED . . 1389

Thirtieth Report was presented

REPORT OF JOINT COMMITTEE LAID ON THE TABLE 1389

Report of the Joint Committee on the Delhi Primary Education Bill, 1960 was laid on the Table.

CALLING ATTENTION TO MATTER OF URGENT PUBLIC IMPORTANCE . 1389—91

Shri C.R. Narasimhan called the attention of the Minister of Finance to the circulation of counterfeit currency notes in South India and the steps taken in the matter.

The Minister of Finance (Shri Morarji Desai) laid on the Table a statement in regard thereto.

COLUMNS

RESIGNATION OF MEMBER 1391

The Speaker informed Lok Sabha that Dr. Gopalrao Khedkar had resigned his seat in Lok Sabha with effect from the 5th August, 1960.

STATUTORY RESOLUTION *RE.* ESSENTIAL SERVICES MAINTENANCE ORDINANCE . . . . 1391—1536

Shri Naushir Bharucha moved the Resolution *re.* Essential Services Maintenance Ordinance, 1960. The discussion on the Resolution was combined with that on the Motion *re.* Strike by the Central Government Employees (*see* next entry).

MOTION *RE.* STRIKE OF SOME CENTRAL GOVERNMENT EMPLOYEES . 1391—1536

The Minister of Home Affairs (Shri G.B. Pant) moved the motion *re.* Strike of some Central Government Employees and the action taken by Government. Nine substitute motions were also moved thereto. The discussion on the Motion was combined with that on the Statutory Resolution (*see* previous entry). The discussion was not concluded.

DISCUSSION ON MATTER OF URGENT PUBLIC IMPORTANCE . . . 1530—32

Further discussion on Rise in Price of Cloth was resumed. The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Lal Bahadur Shastri) replied to the debate and the discussion was concluded.

AGENDA FOR TUESDAY, AUGUST 9, 1960/SRAVANA 18, 1882 (SAKA)—

Further discussion on the Statutory Resolution *re.* Essential Services Maintenance Ordinance, 1960 and the Motion *re.* Strike of some Central Government Employees.

MGIPND—LSII—686 (Ai) LS—17-8-60—950.